FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

23 MAY 1983

Lebanon

Lebanese Position, Diplomacy — The Lebanese stand is supported by "most" Arab states, Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan asserted in a *Monday Morning* magazine interview reported by Beirut radio. Lebanon hopes for Saudi support, he said, and also aspires for "direct cooperation, understanding, and agreement" with Syria. Meanwhile, in remarks broadcast by Beirut radio on his return from Europe, Foreign Minister Elie Salim expressed pleasure over the European "consensus on full and serious support for Lebanon." Earlier, official sources cited by the radio disclosed that Lebanon has asked Soviet Ambassador Aleksandr Soldatov for Soviet help in pressing Syria to change its stand on the Lebanese-Israeli agreement and begin talks with Lebanon on the withdrawal of Syrian forces.

In another development Lebanese presidential envoys were received by Iraqi President Saddam Husayn and Egyptian President Husni Mubarak, according to INA and MENA reports on 21 May. The envoy in Baghdad subsequently said Iraq's stand toward Lebanon is "positive" and shows understanding for the steps taken by President Amin al-Jumayyil, Beirut radio reported. However, an Iraqi Ba'th Party statement carried by INA stressed that the agreement "harms" Lebanon and stated that Iraqi Ba'thists cannot approve any agreement that "mortgages the sovereignty" of any Arab country to Israel. The statement also strongly denounced the Syrian military presence in Lebanon, calling for the evacuation of Syrian forces and Iranian "mercenary groups."

Syrian Position, Diplomacy – Syria will take "all measures" to assist the Lebanese nationalist forces opposed to the agreement and will also adopt general measures to protect Syria's security and economy, Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam announced in an *Al-Mustaqbal* magazine interview reported by Damascus radio. Khaddam also told Radio Monte Carlo that, in view of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement, Syria has "nothing to talk about." He said Syria is willing to discuss only "saving Lebanon and preserving its sovereignty, dignity, and security," as well as preserving Arab security and preventing implementation of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement.

Meanwhile, envoys conveyed messages to several Arab leaders explaining Syria's opposition to the "agreement of treason," Damascus radio noted. While one envoy traveled to Libya and Algeria, another met Saudi King Fahd and other Gulf leaders, according to JANA, Algiers radio, SPA, and various Gulf media. In another development the Tunisian foreign minister arrived in Damascus with a message for President al-Asad, Damascus radio noted on 22 May.

Ash-Shuf Violence — Beirut radio reported that 23 people were killed during a wave of Druze-Christian kidnappings and counterkidnappings over the weekend. Noting that the violence began after a Druze shaykh was killed by a landmine, Voice of Lebanon radio said the Christians "avenged in kind" the killing of four people kidnapped by the Progressive Socialist Party. IDF officers in the Ash-Shuf region subsequently summoned Phalangist and Druze militia commanders in an attempt to halt the violence, Jerusalem radio reported. The radio spoke of a deathtoll of over 60 persons.

Lifting of F-16 Embargo

Israeli defense sources expressed satisfaction over the U.S. decision to end the embargo on the 75 F-16 aircraft intended for Israel, Jerusalem television reported. A Damascus radio commentary claimed that the United States is thus continuing to reward Israel for invading Lebanon. According to Riyadh radio, the Saudi paper *An-Nadwah* said that despite Israel's "aggressions" the United States "does not feel embarrassed" by supplying more F-16's and "unconditionally recognizing Israel's right to commit aggression in the future."

PLO

A number of personnel changes in the Palestinian forces in Lebanon and Syria were announced following a "very lengthy" meeting of the Fatah Central Committee in Al-Biqa' on 21 May, Baghdad Voice of PLO and Aden Voice of Palestine radios reported. Attended by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and Palestinian military leaders, the committee examined the problems created by the recent "indisciplined activities" and, for the sake of "maintaining unity," decided to place the dissident leaders under 'Arafat's "direct orders." Moreover, it appointed Brigadier General Ahmad 'Afanah to head the newly formed command of Palestinian forces in Lebanon and Syria. Radio Monte Carlo, citing informed Palestinian sources in Damascus, said some of the dissidents reject 'Arafat's conciliatory measures and stress that their movement "has not said its final word yet." The Fatah Central Committee also decided to hold a Revolutionary Council session to discuss political and organizational issues in preparation for the movement's fifth general congress.

Libya

Al-Qadhdhafi on Lebanon, PLO — Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi called on the Lebanese people to mutiny against their "false" president, government, and parliament, according to a 22 May speech broadcast by Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio. The Libyan leader also reaffirmed his support for Nimr Salih's "revolution" in the Fatah movement and appealed to other PLO leftist factions to unite with Salih under one front, dissolving their separate organizations.

Expulsion From Upper Volta — The staff of the Libyan mission in Ouagadougou was expelled from the country on the "pretext" that it has been instigating an armed uprising against the leaders of the "coup" in Upper Volta, JANA reported on 22 May.

Exchange With Egypt Over Chad — A statement issued by a Foreign Liaison Office source reiterated that Libya is "still neutral" regarding events in Chad and is committed to this position, according to Tripoli radio. It added, however, that Libya will abandon its neutrality if any foreign force intervenes in Chad. The statement was in response to an Egyptian Foreign Ministry official's comment in light of reports of recent military successes by former Chadian President Goukouni's forces. The Egyptian official said in remarks carried by MENA that Egypt is watching with "extreme concern" developments in Chad and the "suspicious and conspiratorial attempts by foreign powers" against Chad's security and stability.

Egypt

Egypt has offered the United States and other friendly states "limited" facilities at the Ra's Banas base, Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali declared in a statement reported by Cairo radio. 'Ali said that, in view of the difficulties encountered during the negotiations with the United States over legal and procedural questions concerning complete Egyptian control over the base, Egypt has decided to develop the base on its own.

YAR

President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih was reelected president for another term by the Constituent People's Congress during an extraordinary session on 22 May, San'a radio reported.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Iran and Iraq exchanged accusations and denials concerning the shelling of each other's cities over the weekend. In a statement to INA an Iraqi minister dismissed as "completely unfounded" claims in Iranian military communiques broadcast by Tehran radio accusing Iraq of shelling Abadan and Ilam. Subsequently, a spokesman for the Iranian Foreign Ministry denied Iraqi claims that Iran was shelling Zurbatiyah and Basra, according to Tehran radio's Arabic service. The spokesman said these "false claims" made in Iraqi military communiques — carried by INA and Baghdad radio on 21 and 22 May — are designed to divert the attention of the UN delegation currently visiting Iran "from investigating the destruction to civilian areas caused by Iraqi missiles."

In another development Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad as-Sabah said he had discerned a "positive response" during his recent talks with Iranian and Iraqi leaders on ending the war, KUNA reported on 20 May citing an interview published by the Beirut paper *Al-Bayraq*. The Kuwaiti and UAE foreign ministers, who visited Iran and Iraq on behalf of the GCC Ministerial Council, will continue their contacts soon as part of a "definite plan" to accomodate the interests of the two fighting countries, QNA reported later.

Iran

Khomeyni Warning — Aytollah Ruhollah Khomeyni, in a 22 May speech broadcast by Tehran radio, strongly warned those clergymen and Majlis members who have been publicly attacking the government's policies recently by saying that it has not done anything for the people, that conditions are getting worse daily, and that economic chaos is intensifying. Khomeyni said their activities must be dealt with "firmly."

Combating Oil Slick — The recent Bahrain conference reached an agreement on combating the oil slick caused by spillage from the Nowruz field, and Iran has formed a committee to deal with this in accordance with the agreement, Deputy Prime Minister Mirza Taheri said, according to Tehran radio's Arabic service on 21 May.

Afghanistan

Afghan insurgents ambushed an Afghan Army convoy in eastern Paktia Province, killing or wounding 60 and capturing 200-300 soldiers, including 8 officers and 1 Soviet adviser, AFP reported on 21 May citing insurgent sources. Meanwhile, a DRA statement carried by BAKHTAR accused the State Department and Western mass media of spreading "shameful rumors and fabrications" alleging that extensive military operations in and around Herat have caused losses to the area's inhabitants. The statement said the situation in Herat and the surrounding area is "completely normal." In another development Pakistani Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan denied reports that the United States is trying to block Pakistan's efforts to achieve a political settlement in Afghanistan, according to another AFP report on 21 May. Such charges were recently voiced by the Soviet ambassador to Pakistan in an interview with the Islamabad daily *The Muslim*, AFP added.

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'Arafat's Activities in Syria, Lebanon Reported

Summons Al-Wazir to Damascus

JN201442 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 1400 GMT 20 May 83

[Text] Abu Jihad, Khalil al-Wazir, has been urgently summoned to Damascus by Yasir 'Arafat after Abu Ra'd [Wasif 'Urayqat], commander of the artillery unit in Fatah, announced his support for Abu Musa, who is pro-Syria and hostile to the organization [as heard].

Meets Fatah Leaders, Cadres

JN201800 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 20 May 83

[Text] Damascus — Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, has met in his office in Damascus with the leaders and cadres of the Fatah organization in Syria. Abu 'Ammar gave a comprehensive briefing on the political and military situations on all levels. He dealt with the serious U.S. role in the region in light of the increasing U.S. threats and statements against the PLO and the Palestinian people and their sacred national cause. He asserted that the current concentrations and threats by the U.S.-Israeli axis that is supported by some local agents against our people and their national leadership is increasing; that the results of the intense struggle in the region have again affirmed that the PLO is the crucial element in the region's equation; and that no peace or stability can be realized by ignoring the Palestinian people's inalienable national rights including their right to return, to self-determinationand to the establishment of their independent state on their national soil under the leadership of the PLO.

Abu 'Ammar made it clear that the U.S. political equation for peace in the region is aimed at spreading domination over people's fate and destiny all over the world. He said: Let it be known that the real peace is that which meets the inalienable national rights of our people.

Abu 'Ammar also said that the new Israeli aggression against the PLO and Syria is aimed at creating new realities on the ground, asserting that one of the most important features of the U.S. plot is the attempt to deal with the Palestinians after signing the agreement with Lebanon. It is not a coincidence, Abu 'Ammar added, that when Shultz finished with Lebanon, he frankly announced that this was his real intention.

Abu 'Ammar pointed out that the Palestinian people inside the Palestinian homeland are daily expressing their cohesion and solidarity of struggle with the PLO, the leader of their national struggle; that the Palestinian people will be able to confront the threats of the coming phase and will outline their future with their rifles by facing all offensives on the military and political fronts.

Referring to the recent developments in Lebanon, Abu 'Ammar asserted that what happened in Lebanon was the result of U.S.-Israeli plots to enable the dictatorial fascist party to tamper with the fate of the nation and the homeland and to transform Lebanon into a U.S. military and political base. He said that the PLO, which is allied in blood and martyrs with the Lebanese nationalist forces and the Arab people of Lebanon, will remain true to its commitment to struggle with our brothers in the joint forces who are waging their battles to restore the Arabism, freedom and unity of Lebanon.

Brother Abu 'Ammar spent last night in Al-Biqa' inspecting the Palestinian revolution forces, issuing instructions to them and calling on them to be at the maximum degree of combat readiness to confront all possible developments.

Tours Positions in Lebanon

GF210620 Doha QNA in Arabic 1800 GMT 20 May 83

[Text] Damascus, 20 May (QNA) — Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO executive committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution Forces, returned to Damascus this evening after a tour of a number of positions of the Palestinian forces stationed in Al-Biqa' and in northern Lebanon.

During his tour this afternoon, Yasir 'Arafat visited the Al-Badr forces of the Palestinian Liberation Army. He was accompanied by Khalil al-Wazir, alias Abu Jihad, deputy commander in chief of the revolution forces; Brigadier General Abu al-Mu'tasim, deputy chief of staff; Colonel Khalid (?as-Sultan), commander of the Ash-Shaqif forces and commander of the Palestinian artillery forces; and a number of senior officers from the Palestinian revolution's command.

An informed Palestinian source has said that during this visit, 'Arafat listened to a detailed explanation from the commanders of the Palestinian military units on the military situation in Al-Biqa' and the military buildups by the Israeli invasion forces. The sources said 'Arafat issued directives and instructions to the commanders and officers of the units and called on them to continue training and preparations to face any agreesion Israel may carry out.

'Arafat spent Thursday night and Friday in Al-Biqa' and northern Lebanon where he continued his tour of Palestinian resistance units and positions.

It has also been learned that it has been initially agreed to freeze the differences among some of the Fatah wings that resulted from some decisions taken by the movement's leadership to appoint new military leaders in a number of Fatah positions. It has also been learned that an agreement has been reached to settle these differences through dialogue between the leadership and the leading elements who rebelled against the aforementioned decisions.

Details U.S. 'Anti-Arab Policy'

LD211959 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1700 GMT 21 May 83

[Text] The brother leader, Abu 'Ammar,chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and general commander of the forces of

the Palestinian revolution, has confirmed that the achievement of a just peace, stability and security in the Middle East is impossible without securing the firm national rights of the Palestinian Arab people. At a meeting he chaired in Damascus attended by the leaders of the Palestinian revolution he explained that the U.S. anti-Arab policy is aimed at imposing American control over the Middle East and its natural resources, pointing out that the White House Administration will be held fully responsible for any new Israeli aggression against Syria and the Palestinian revolution. Brother Abu 'Ammar added that the continuation of the threats against the Pelestinian revolution, that are being followed up by military preparations organized and encouraged by the Washington administration, is aimed at putting pressure on the Palestinian people and the other Arab peoples to make them accept the capitulationist solutions submitted by the Zionist enemy and the United States.

Abu 'Ammar pointed out that the situation in Lebanon indicates the existence of an imperialist-Zionist plot to transform that country into a military and political base affiliated to them, declaring that the PLO is ready to stand by the Lebanese nationalist forces against the Zionist occupation and restoring back peace, stability and unity to Lebanese soil.

The brother commander, Abu 'Ammar, chaired this meeting immediately after his return yesterday evening from the Al-Biqa' Valley and North Lebanon after touring several positions of the Palestinian forces in those regions. A responsible Palestinian source reported that brother Abu 'Ammar heard during the tour detailed explanations from the commanders of the Palestinian military units on the military situation in the Al-Biqa' valley and the Israeli military moves in the region. He also became acquainted with the extent of the preparation of the Palestinian forces to confront any Zionist aggression against them and against the Syrian forces.

Brother Abu 'Ammar also continued his meetings with Fatah leaders in Damascus. He discussed with them the current developments in the Palestinian arena. A responsible Palestinian source explained that brother commander Abu 'Ammar presented a political survey of the developments in the political and the military situation at all levels and referred in detail to the American role in the Middle East. The source said that brother Abu 'Ammar again warned against the dangers of a new Zionist aggression at the order of America to deal a blow against the PLO and Syria.

Visits Northern Lebanon Camps

JN221642 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 22 May 83

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, forces, today made an inspection visit to Al-Baddawi and Nahr al-Barid Camps in Tripoli, northern Lebanon, where he met with the commanders, officers, and cadres of the Palestinian revolution. The brother commander Abu 'Ammar was received by multitudes of Palestinians and Lebanese who came to greet the brother commander in chief and to renew the pledge to continue the struggle under his leadership.

Meets Karami in Tripoli

NC221747 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 22 May 83

[Text] PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat arrived in northern Lebanon today and held a series of meetings in Al-Barid and Al-Baddawi Camps. 'Arafat met with [former] Prime Minister Rashid Karami in Tripoli after delivering an address at Al-Baddawi Camp, in which he attacked what he called the Arab agent regimes and denounced the Lebanese-Israeli agreement.

Meanwhile, Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf] predicted an Israeli-Syrian war that will go beyond the Al-Biqa' to Syria and Jordan.

Fatah Central Committee Makes Personnel Changes

JN221758 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 22 May 83

[Text] In a very long meeting, the Fatah Central Committee discussed the current situation in light of Zionist threats, provocations, and movements, which are timed with U.S. threats against Syria, the Lebanese nationalist forces, and the PLO whose identical position against the agreement of humilation that is being imposed on Lebanon and its brave people is an obstacle to U.S. imperialism's plans to impose its hegemony over the entire region.

The Central Committee also discussed the indisciplined activities that the committee of revolutionary and military cadres has done its best to solve. The PLO Executive Committee and the leaders of the Palestinian groups have also commendably exerted their common efforts and good offices to try to end this indiscipline for the sake of maintaining the unity of the movement and the revolution. Efforts were exerted over the past few days in an atmosphere of fraternal democratic dialogue and on the basis of organizational loyalty and complete national responsibility. In light of the above, the Central Committee has made the following decisions:

1. To hold the 12th ordinary session of the Fatah movement's Revolutionary Council, which was scheduled for 17 May in accordance with a decision made by the council at its earlier session in Aden, to discuss political, organizational, and movement issues and to take the necessary decisions, and also to prepare for the convocation of the Fatah movement's fifth general congress, which, due to existing circumstances, could not be held this month in accordance with the movement's basic law.

2. The Central Committee empowers the brother commander in chief to issue the military decisions that will insure the combat efficacy of the Palestinian revolution forces in Lebanon and Syria as follows.

a. A command shall be formed for a front comprising all the Palestinian revolution forces in Lebanon and Syria in accordance with the recommendation of the Higher Military council.

b. Brother Brigadier General Ahmad 'Afanah, alias Abu al-Mu'tasim, shall assume the command of this front in addition to his current post [as commander of the Palestinian forces in Lebanon].

c. The following brothers shall be placed under the direct orders [yuda' tahta imrat] of the brother commander in chief: Brother Colonel Abu Musa; Brother Colonel Muhammad Badr, alias Abu Majdi; Lieutenant Colonel Ziyad as-Sughayyir; Lieutenant Colonel Wasif 'Urayqat [words indistinct].

d. Any dealing or contact with them on the part of the revolution shall [words indistinct].

'Arafat's 'Reconciliatory Measures' Rejected

JN221806 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 22 May 83

[Text] Informed Palestinian sources said in Damascus today that the following Palestinian commanders have been deposed from their posts: Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa], Abu Majdi [Muhammad Badr], Ziyad as-Sughayyir, Abu Ra'd [Wasif 'Urayqat], and Mahmud 'Isa.

Fatah Central Committee member Abu Salih [Nimr Salih] today said that he rejects Yasir 'Arafat's reconciliatory measures and that the dissident movement has not said its final world yet. Abu Salih's spokesman said that the opposition group will not accept the PLO chairman's changes in the Fatah movement — changes aimed at ending the conflict that has been going on for about 2 weeks. However, the rest of the Palestinian commanders in Al-Biqa' declined to make any comment.

On another level, a spokesman for the Fatah movement accused Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi of seeking to harm Fatah, its leadership, and unity. In an interview with today's newspaper *Ash-Sharq Al-Wasat*, the spokesman said that Col al-Qadhdhafi is seeking to exploit the limited internal problem to increase Fatah's conflict and division.

Fatah Central Committee Statement Reviews Situation

GF221957 Aden Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1820 GMT 22 May 83

[Text] An important meeting was held on 21 May. The brother commander in chief [Yasir 'Arafat] and the members of the Fatah Central Committee, Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf], Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi], Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir] and Abu al-Hawl [Hayil 'abd al-Hamid] met with the cadres, officers and commanders of military units, the branches, the two committees of the two regions of Lebanon and Syria, members of the Fatah Revolutionary Council and members of the expanded military council.

The meeting was held in Al-Biqa'. A comprehensive discussion of the military and political situation and the movement's situation was made. The problem created by some military personnel in the 'Aytah area and the external attempts to exploit, exaggerate and inflate the problem were also discussed. The conferees reviewed all aspects of the problem. Everyone welcomed the statement issued by the Fatah Central Committee and the resolutions it adopted on the military situation.

Referring to the problem, the statement says: It was not surprising or strange to us that hostile propaganda media, led by the B3C, which is headed by a well-known Zionist, should resort to distortion, whose primarily aim is to create confusion among our Palestinian people, particularly in the occupied territories, and seek to undermine the Palestinian image, which is magnificently perceived in our Arab world and in the world despite the indefatigable efforts of the enemies against our people, cause and revolution. These hostile media exploit a limited internal problem within our movement and seek -- through intrigue and distortion -- the kindling of the fires of sedition and the encouragement of fragmentation, thus converging with the irresponsible propaganda media that are financed by some people. Our people know the extent of the hostility of these media to their history, heritage and values and even to the blood of their martyrs.

We ask: What is in common among Israel radio, the Phalangist radio, the BBC and the propaganda of these people and what brings them together on the same course pursuing the same tactics, namely to strike at Fatah, its leadershop and its unity.

Our people and heroic fighters cannot forget for a single moment the stand of the silent and proud during the recent war in Lebanon, while they were content to shout through their information media their support and solidarity, and so ultimately those who were besieged in Beirut received only hollow bragging.

When the Palestinian revolution left Beirut hoisting its flags and carrying its guns, determined to continue to fight, they reverted to their old tune to outbid the fighters and cast doubts on them and on their heroism, ignoring a fact that our people and nation believe, namely, that it is the fighter who forged the epic of Beirut who has the right to certify everyone's patriotism and revolutionary ferver and not those who shirked their duty when the time of action came and hid at the moment of pride, glory and heroism.

We will not talk much about this disgraceful phenomenon whom thse outbidders truly embody. They have failed the test, and their true face has been exposed in every difficult situation.

However, we finally say that the Fatah movement, with all its fighters, members, cadres and leaders, is capable of resolving its problems however big or small they may be, far from the venom of the false pretenders and far from those who converge with the hostile Zionist media.

The Fatah movement, which represents the vanguard in the sound practice of struggle and in the commitment to the bases and spirit of democratic struggle in which it takes pride, is always capable of thwarting those who seek to harm it, and is capable of preventing them from exploiting its problems and exacerbating its wounds. This movement, which has kindled the Palestinian revolution, brought the Palestinian people's cause to the attention ofthe region and the world, and fought the noblest and most honorable battles in our nation's contemporary history, will always remain — through the unity of its members and its

adherence to its traditions and principles — loyal to the aspirations of its people and nation and the unflinching and unshakable vanguard in the nation's struggle against its enemies, the imperialists, Zionists and agents.

Fatah Circular on Al-Biqa' Mutiny Revealed
GF201332 Kuwait Al-Watan in Arabic 19 May 83 P 14

[Excerpt] Fatah, the biggest Palestinian organization, has said that the indiscipline that occurred among the ranks of the Al-Yarmuk forces has been dealt with and that all officers and men have rejoined their forces except for 30 men who have chosen to follow Colonel Abu Musa.

Fatah has accused the Abu Nidal [Sabri al-Banna] group, the PFLP-General Command that is led by Ahmad Jibril, and other external parties of supporting the mutiny.

A general circular issued by the office of Yasir 'Arafat, the commander in chief of the forces of the Palestinian revolution, — a copy of which was obtained by *Al-Watan* — said that the problem was created by Abu Musa and a small group of officers who include Lieutenant Colonel Ziyad as-Saghir, ex-MajorHasan Abu Shunnar who was expelled from Fatah by its Central Committee because he was convicted in a case in an Arab country, MajorMahmud Abu 'Isa, Major Abu Jalil, and Captain Abu Zahrah who was suspended from Fatah.

The circular said that the consequences of this behavior has been quickly absorbed.

The circular criticised the information campaign that it said has become fiercer and sought to exaggerate events. In this respect the circular referred in particular to the BBC whose chairman is a well-known Zionist Jew. The statement said that the nobility of the Al-Yarmuk forces was demonstrated when all elements joined their command except for 30 men who followed Abu Musa. The statement said that Abu Musa has exploited his position as chief of operations, a position he reached following promotions and transfers. The circular expressed regret at Abu Musa's participation now that the quarters that stand behind the problem have become known. The circular accused the Abu Nidal group and Ahmad Jibril of financing and arming the mutineers and said that forces from the two groups attacked two Fatah offices in Ba'alabakk to create problems.

The circular accused certain Arab countries of being involved in the mutiny, and said that there are figures, documents, and information that will be announced at the appropriate time.

Fatah Revolutionary Council To Meet 'By End of May'
GF221622 San'a' Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 22 May 83

[Text] The Fatah Central Committee has decided to call for a meeting of the Fatah Revolutionary Council by the end of May 1983. WAFA reports that the meeting will be devoted to the discussion of the political situation and to the adoption of the appropriate decisions. WAFA adds that this decision comes at the end of 3 days of continuous meetings of the Fatah Central Committee under the chairmanship of brother Abu 'Ammar.

Tripoli Reports Continued Rebellion Against 'Arafat
LD211414 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 21 May 83

[Text] According to reports from Beirut today, Yasir 'Arafat has completely lost control over the Fatah wing that he heads within the PLO.

The reports add that 'Arafat's visits to his supporters in Al-Biqa' have failed to produce any results and that the rebellion within the Fatah wing has escalated and attracted the various leaders of the wing.

An urgent dispatch from Al-Biqa' says that troops from the 1st artillery unit, which were under the command of Yasir 'Arafat, have now joined the new revolutionary movement within Fatah, as have troops from the 2d Artillery Unit led by Yusuf Jafan.

The revolution against the wing led by 'Arafat within the Fatah movement has won over more revolutionary cadres. The officers on a study mission to Yugoslavia have cut short their study and returned to Al-Biqa' declaring full support for the revolutionary movement led by Abu Salah and Abu Musa. The head and staff of the Fatah office in Czechoslovakia have also declared their support for the movement. The officers on training in Czechoslovakia and the Fatah representative in the United States have also joined the revolution.

In the welter of this development that has paralyzed all his movements, 'Arafat tried to send 2d Artillary Unit forces to Aden before they joined the revolution. But the members of the unit refused the order and declared that the battlefield is in Al-Biqa' and not in Aden.

Under the effect of the violent shock, 'Arafat has tried to seek the help of some of the forces in Ba'albakk and at Al-Hirmil to strike at the revolutionary movement. But these forces refused to heed 'Arafat's orders and declared their full support for the revolutionary movement which broke out against the wing led by Yasir 'Arafat.

The Lebanese national resistance front has also announced its support for the revolutionary movement and so has the Arab Socialist Union in Lebanon and the Fatah supporters in Aden.

Khalil al-Wazir Interviewed on Al-Biqa' Mutiny
GF201938 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1310 GMT 20 May 83

[Text] Kuwait, 20 May (WAKH) — Khalil al-Wazir, alias Abu Jihad, deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, has denied that any armed fighting has occurred among the various Palestinian groups in Al-Biqa'.

In an interview published in the Kuwaiti newspaper *Al-Watan* today, Abu Jihad asserted that there is no disagreement over the unanimous decision of the Fatah Central Committee on the way

to deal with the matter. He noted that the disagreements inside Fatah will be settled in the next few days.

Furthermore, Abu Jihad explained that what has taken place in the past few days was the following: Colonel Abu Musa tried to gain control of the first and second regiments of the Al-Yarmuk forces. The first regiment used to be under the command of Abu Musa, while the second regiment was under the command of Abu Khalid and now Major Abu 'Isa, who is in Al-Biqa'. Abu Jihad added that Colonel Abu Musa visited the commander of the first regiment and while the commander was offering him tea he broke a wireless radio. Suddenly a group of fighters interfered and asked the regiment's commander either to join them or leave his headquarters. He chose to leave.

Moreover, Abu Jihad said: Abu Musa refused to explain what had occurred. Then we tried again and sent some military officers in an attempt to talk him into leaving, he refused. He also refused to give the officers any reports or provide an explanation, saying he would carry out an insurrection. Abu Jihad added: In light of this stand we decided to hold an urgent meeting of the military council's officers: the officers, commanders and cadres of all regiments and units, the Al-Karamah forces, the Al-Qastal forces, and the officers, militia forces, forces present in Ajnadin and Ash-Shaqif, and the Badr forces from the Liberation Army. Abu Jihad noted that the extensive military meeting unanimously rejected this operation and strongly denounced it. It asked Abu Musa to return all things to normal and return to the operations headquarters in Damascus where he had been prior to the event.

Abu Jihad explained: To let him know that none of the forces were supporting him in his wrong stand, the military council decided to send two or three commanders to meet with him and inform him of the military council's decisions. Indeed a delegation went and informed him of the decisions and the necessity of responding to these decisions. But he said he wanted a period of time to think.

Abu Jihad added that on the third day the same delegation went to see him but could not find him. The delegation went again but they found that he had left them a note, saying that there was a political problem that should be solved. Abu Jihad said on the fourth day Abu Musa told the military committee that he had prepared political remarks on the decisions made regarding the new formations. The delegation told him that he would have the opportunity to discuss any problem within our framework, either before the military council, the supreme military council of the Palestinian revolution, or before the revolutionary council, the Central Committee, or the PLO Executive Committee. Nonetheless, Abu Musa did not give them an answer.

Abu Jihad also said: Abu Musa then resorted to issuing statements from Damascus in which he said he had political observations he wanted to deliver to us. But his subsequent statements were bogus because they bore the name of the General Command of the Al-'Asifah forces and neither he nor his group had the capacity to speak for it.

He added that the set of statements issued by Abu Musa contained several political issues that were fabricated and unfounded such as, the Central Committee had adopted a decision to withdraw from Lebanon. This, Abu Jihad added, is of course untrue because we can not hide such a matter and such a decision cannot be concealed.

He indicated that one of the statements also contained charges such as, Fatah had accepted the Reagan plan during the Palestinian-Jordanian dialogue.

Abu Jihad stressed: We answer this by stating the fact, which is known to everyone particularly following the meeting of Fatah Central Committee in Kuwait, which is, Fatah has decided to totally refuse to deal with the Reagan plan, a thing that resulted in halting the Jordanian-Palestinian talks. This stand has resulted in increasing the intensity of the U.S. onslaught on the PLO especially the attacks by Reagan and Shultz who attacked the PLO and the patriotic forces in it.

He added: What happened next is that a committee of organizational cadres stemming from a meeting of about 100 cadres moved on their own in an effort aimed at finding a solution to this problem and to prevent the occurence of any clash, because some parties imagined the possibility of an armed clash among the forces. Fabricated reports about the existence of clashes were propagated, but we stress that none took place.

He went on to say: At that moment it became apparent to us that foreign parties were seeking to push matters to the extent of a clash, creating a revolution within the revolution. Some people, for instance, said that Abu Jihad was besieged in Al-Biqa' and that one of his offices there was attacked and that there were some abortive attempts to break the siege. We were astonished to hear such imaginative reports.

He explained that he and the commander general of the Palestinian revolution forces, Yasir 'Arafat, made continuous and daily visits to all regions in Al-Biqa' and held meetings with all units, battalions, and forces and discussed with them all the developments but did not find any support from any member of all the forces for Abu Musa.

He concluded his statement by saying: We are trying to keep this matter confined to its location with the hope of dealing with it wisely. The following few days will bring about a radical solution.

PLO's Qaddumi Meets Foreign Officials in Damascus

USSR Ambassador Vladimir Yukhin

GF211212 Doha QNA in Arabic 1120 GMT 21 May 83

[Text] Damascus, 21 May (QNA) — PLO Political Department Head Faruq Qaddumi held a meeting with Soviet Ambassador in Damascus Vladimir Yukhin last night during which he reviewed the latest developments of the situation in the region.

A Palestinian source has said that the meeting was held in an atmosphere of amity and friendship and that relations between the PLO and the Soviet Union were discussed.

Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister

LD202244 Tehran IRNA in English 1907 GMT 20 May 83

[Text] Tehran, May 20, IRNA — The deputy foreign minister for political affairs, Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam, said today that Lebanon's accord with the Zionist regime is to the detriment of Lebanon's sovereignty and integrity and serves to bring it under control of the Zionist regime.

Sheykh ol-Eslam who was talking in a meeting with the head of the Political Affairs Bureau of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Faruq Qaddumi, in Damascus also hoped that the Palestine revolutionaries would fight on steadily against American and Zionist inroads. He also voiced the support of the Islamic revolution for the Syrian and Palestinian freedom fighters.

In response Faruq Qaddumi noted that the Palestine revolution appreciates the significant role of the Islamic Republic in the region.

Israeli Military Buildup, Threat Assessed

'Arafat Notes 'Grave Signs'

JN201425 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1400 GMT 20 May 83

[Text] In Shtawrah, Lebanon, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has told *Vis News* that Israel has massed five military divisions in Lebanon opposite the Syrian and Palestinian forces. 'Arafat said: We must not forget the threats and statements that have been repeatedly leveled by the official Israeli spokesmen and army commanders. Similarily, 'Arafat added: We must also recall the official U.S. statements that consitute serious and extremely grave signs with regard to the next few days in which we expect important events.

'Extremely Explosive' Situation Described

JN211816 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 21 May 83

[Text] Bassam Abu Sharif, the official PFLP spokesman, and Jamil Halal, the official spokesman for Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP], have affirmed that Israel might embark upon a new offensive in the region now that the Lebanese-Israeli agreement has been signed. Abu Sharif described the situation in the region as extremely explosive.

PPSF Warns of Attack

JN211656 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 21 May 83

[Text] The Palestinian Popular Struggle Front [PPSF] has warned of the serious consequences which may result from signing the Lebanese-Israeli agreement of submission, foremost of which is a Zionist enemy attack against the Syrian and Palestinian forces in Lebanon to subjugate the region to the U.S.-Zionist plot.

The newspaper *Nidal As[illegible]-Sha'b*, organ of the front, asserts that the objective of the Israeli concentrations and provocations in Al-Biqa' and the U.S. rabid campaign against the opponents of this agreement, led by Syria, is to prepare for this aggression which, in the view of the United States and the Zionist entity, is essential to subjugate the region to the hostile U.S. objectives.

Tunisia Set To Mediate Between Syria, Lebanon

GF211528 Dubayy Al-Bayan in Arabic 20 May 83 p 1

[Excerpt] Beirut — *Al-Bayan* has learned that Tunis has decided, within the framework of an Arab-U.S. accord, to make an initiative with Syria in order to soften its stand on negotiating with Lebanon and with the U.S. side concerning the withdrawal from Lebanon.

Within the framework of this accord, the Tunisian foreign minister has been invited by the Syrian foreign minister, 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, to visit Damascus.

The minister is expected, once he reaches a certain degree of progress in his talks in Damascus, to visit Beirut and other Arab capitals to find a particular equation or formula for Lebanese-Syria negotiations and Syrian-U.S. negotiations.

GULF AFFAIRS

Kuwait, UAE To Continue Iraq-Iran Mediation

GF201100 Doha QNA in Arabic 1000 GMT 20 May 83

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 20 May (QNA) — The QNA correspondent in Abu Dhabi has learned that on 21 May the GCC's good offices committee — which comprises Kuwaiti Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sabah al-Ahmad as-Sabah and UAE Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Rashid 'Abdallah — will begin contacts with both Iraq and Iran to fix the date for the second round of visits by the committee to the two countries. The visits are being made within the framework of the efforts of the GCC countries to combat the oil slick that has spilled into Gulf waters and ways of ending the Iraqi-Iranian war.

In its meeting in Riyadh on 19 April the GCC Ministerial Council decided to continue contacts with Iraq and Iran in view of the fact that the two countries have shown a favorable response to the continuation of the committee's good efforts.

BAHRIAN

Syrian Minister Arrives With Al-Asad Message

GF221339 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1317 GMT 22 May 83

[Text] Manama, 22 May (WAKH) — Syrian Information Minister Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad arrived in Manama today on a short visit to Bahrain that is part of his tour of area countries.

The Syrian minister is scheduled to convey a message from Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad to the amir of Bahrain, Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, later today on the current Arab situation.

Earlier today the Syrian information minister conveyed a similar message to the amir of Kuwait.

Meets With Amir, Departs

GF221542 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1455 GMT 22 May 83

[Text] Manama, 22 May (WAKH) — Bahraini Amir Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah received a written message from Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad dealing with new events in the Arab region, particularly since the signing of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement.

The letter was conveyed by Syrian Information Minister Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad during his meeting with his highness here today.

The meeting was attended by Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah, prime minister, and Tariq 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Mu'ayyad, information minister.

In a statement following the meeting, Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad stated that Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah has affirmed to him Bahrain's support for Syria in all arenas and its diligent efforts to create an Arab solidarity to enable the Arab nation to resist the aggressors and those who are trying to undermine its independence and freedom.

The Syrian information minister left Manama this afternoon for Doha after a few hours visit to Bahrain within the framework of his tour to a number of the region's countries.

KUWAIT

Syrian Information Minister Arrives With Message

LD212125 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 21 May 83

[Text] Syrian Information Minister Ahmad Iskandar arrived in Kuwait this evening. He was welcomed by Social Affairs and Labor Minister Hamad 'Isa al-Rujayib and Under Secretary of the Ministry of Information Shaykh Nasir Muhammad (al-Hasan al-Jabir). On his arrival Mr Iskandar said that he is carrying a message to his excellency the amir of Kuwait from President Hafiz al-Asad.

Meets With Amir, Departs

LD221126 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1027 GMT 22 May 83

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 22 May (KUNA) — Mr Ahmad Iskandar, Syrian minister of information, left here today after a short visit, during which he handed a handwritten message to Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, amir of Kuwait, from Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad.

The message, which the Syrian president's envoy conveyed during his meeting with Shaykh Jabir, explains the Syrian position, which rejects the Lebanese-Israeli agreement concerning the withdrawal of the Israel forces from Lebanon.

Mr Iskandar is one of the two envoys who were sent by President al-Asad to convey messages to the leaders of the Arab countries that they will visit. These messages explain the Syrian position toward the agreement, which was signed last Tuesday.

At the end of his visit, which lasted less than 24 hours, Mr Iskandar was seen off by Mr Hamad 'Isa ar-Rutjayb, Kuwaiti minister of social affairs and labor and housing.

OMAN

Qabus Returns From Jordan, U.S. Visits

GF200724 Salalah Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 20 May 83

[Text] His Majesty Qabus returned to the country last night from his auspicious trip, during which he made official visits to fraternal Jordan and the United States and private visits to some fraternal and friendly countries.

He was received at the private sultani airport by His Highness Thuwayni ibn Shahab, adviser to his majesty the sultan and

governor of Muscat; His Excellency Hamad ibn Hamud, minister of sultan's affairs; and Lieutenant Colonel Sa'id ibn Salim al-Wahibi, director of the sultan's court affairs.

Foreign Minister Returns From Riyadh GCC Meetings

GF200802 Doha QNA in Arabic 0727 GMT 20 May 83

[Excerpt] Muscat, 20 May (QNA) — Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdallah, Omani minister of state for foreign affairs, returned to Muscat from Riyadh early today after leading his country's delegation to the meetings of the seventh session of the GCC Ministerial Council.

Iranian NIOC Helicopter Lands in Musandam

GF221801 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1740 GMT 22 May 83

[Text] Muscat, 22 May (WAKH) — An Omani spokesman announced in Muscat today that an Iranian Aleoutte III helicopter of the National Iranian Oil Company [NIOC] landed in the Musandam area on 21 May.

A spokesman for the Omani Sultani Police said that a NIOC Aleoutte III helicopter commanded by 29-year-old Commander (Ra'id Bahri) Reza Jahanshahi of the Iranian Navy landed in the Musandam area on 21 May 1983.

The Omani spokesman added that the said person was arrested immediately upon landing and imprisoned for entering the country illegally.

QATAR

Syrian Minister Conveys Message, Departs

GF221809 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1757 GMT 22 May 83

[Text] Doha, 22 May (WAKH) — Syrian Information Minister Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad left Doha for Abu Dhabi today following a short visit to Qatar.

During his visit the Syrian minister conveyed a message from Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad to the amir of Qatar, Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, on current Arab developments.

Amir Receives French, U.S., UK Messages

GF220950 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0915 GMT 22 May 83

[Text] Doha, 22 May (WAKH) — Qatari Amir His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani has received a written message from French President Francois Mitterrand in reply to his highness' message on the need for more efforts within the United Nations to put an end to the Iraqi-Iranian war and to implement its charter as France is one of the Security Council's permanent members.

The message was conveyed by French Ambassador to Qatar Henri Piot during his meeting with the amir of Qatar in Doha this morning.

His highness received last week reply messages from U.S. President Ronald Reagan and British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher on the same issue.

SAUDI ARABIA

UAE President Arrives on Official Visit

LD211315 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 21 May 83

[Text] His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, president of the United Arab Emirates, arrived in Dhahran this afternoon on a visit to the Kingdom.

His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and a number of princes, ministers, and senior officials were at the airport to receive him.

Shaykh Zayid is accompanied by a delegation which includes Shaykh Hamdan ibn Muhammad, deputy prime minister; Ahmad Khalifa al-Suwaydi, the representative of the head of state; Dr Mani' al-'Utaybah, minister of petroleum and natural resources; and Rashid 'Abdallah,minister of state for foreign affairs.

His Majesty King Fahd hosted a luncheon this afternoon in honor of the United Arab Emirates delegation.

Fahd-Zayid Meeting

GF211520 Jidda Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 21 May 83

[Excerpt] King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and UAE President Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan held a meeting at 1530 this afternoon at the royal court in Ad-Dammam. The meeting was attended on the UAE side by Deputy Prime Minister Shaykh Hamdan ibn Muhammad and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Rashid 'Abdallah and on the Saudi side by Information Minister 'Ali al-Sha'ir.

Developments in the current Arab situation in general and the situation in the Gulf in particular, in addition to issues of mutual interest and bilateral relations were discussed.

UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan arrived in Dhahran at 1315 this afternoon on a visit to the Kingdom. He was received by King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, a number of princesand ministers, and high-ranking civilian and military officials.

21 May Departure

LD211627 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1520 GMT 21 May 83

[Text] Dhahran, 21 May (SPA) — UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan and members of his delegation left Dhahran airport this evening. He was seen off by King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Deputy Defense Minister Prince 'Abd ar-Rahman ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, and Governor of the Eastern Region 'Abd

al-Muhsin ibn Jalawi. Also present at the airport were a number of princes, ministers, and senior military and civilian officials.

King Fahd met this afternoon with Shaykh Zayid and discussed with him a number of issues pertaining to relations between the two countries.

Syrian Information Minister Arrives on Visit

GF211210 Jidda Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 21 May 83

[Text] Syrian Information Minister Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad arrived at Dhahran airport today. He was received by Information Minister 'Ali ash-Sha'ir, a representative from the royal protocol office, and a number of officials.

Delivers Message to Fahd

LD211809 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1630 GMT 21 May 83

[Text] Ad-Dammam, 21 May (SPA) — His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz received in his office at 1900 today Syrian Information Minister Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad who handed his majesty a message from His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad of Syria.

The meeting was attended by Information Minister 'Ali ash-Sha'ir.

The Syrian information minister arrived in Dhahran this morning.

Departs 21 May

LD212059 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 21 May 83

[Excerpt] Syrian Information Minister Ahmad Iskandar left Dhahran this evening after a visit to the Kingdom, during which he had the honor of meeting with His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. He discussed with his majesty the king a number of issues relating to the Arab arena and problems of mutual interest. He was seen off at the airport by His Highness Information Minister 'Ali ash-Sha'ir.

UAE

Syrian Minister Arrives in Abu Dhabi 22 May

GF221858 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1835 GMT 22 May 83

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 22 May (WAKH) — Syrian Information Minister Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad arrived in Abu Dhabi today on a 1-day visit to the UAE that is part of his tour of area countries.

The Syrian minister will convey a message from Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad to UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan on current Arab developments and Syria's view of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement.

The Syrian minister was received on arrival by Information and Culture Minister Ahmad ibn Hamid Al Nuhayyan and Syrian Ambassador to the UAE Muhammad Kabur.

Meets With President

GF230815 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0748 GMT 23 May 83

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 23 May (WAKH) — UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan has received a letter from Syrian President Hafiz Al-Asad on the recent developments in the current Arab situation. The letter was delivered by Syrian Information Minister Ahmad Iskandar when he was received by Shaykh Zayid here today.

The audience was attended by Surur ibn Muhammad, director of the president's office; Ahmad Khalifah as-Suwaydi, the president's representative; Ahmad ibn Hamid, UAE information minister; and Muhammad Kabur, Syrian ambassador to the UAE.

Iskandar delivered similar messages yesterday to the leaders of Kuwait, Bahrain, and Qatar.

PDRY

Foreign Minister Departs for Ethiopia 20 May

GF201508 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 20 May 83

[Text] Brother Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali, member of the YSP Central Committee and foreign minister, left Aden for Addis Ababa this morning on a visit of several days to Ethiopia.

The foreign minister will deliver a letter from the secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, and chairman of the Council of Ministers to Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council and chairman of the Executive Committee of the Ethiopian Working People's Party [as heard], on bilaterial relations.

The foreign minister will also hold talks with Ethiopian officials on improving and enhancing relations of friendship and on all international issues.

YSP, LCY Delegations Begin Talks in Aden 21 May

GF212006 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 21 May 83

[Excerpt] The first session of talks between the delegation of the YSP Central Committee — led by Brother 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Qadir, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Secretariat — and the delegation of the League of Yugoslav Communists [LCY] — led by Comrade Petar Matic, member of the league's Central Committee — was held at the headquarters of the YSP Central Secretariat this evening. During the talks, which took place in a friendly and amicable atmosphere, the two sides exchanged views on developing rela-

tions between both parties and countries and reviewed the most important current international developments.

YAR

President Salih Reelected by Parliament

GF221136 Doha QNA in Arabic 1120 GMT 22 May 83

[Text] San'a', 22 May (QNA) — The YAR Constituent People's Council has reelected 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih president for another term.

This was announced today by the deputy speaker of the Constituent People's Assembly following today's extraordinary session.

Further Details

GF221937 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 22 May 83

[Excerpts] Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the armed forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, will take oath before the members of the People's Constituent Assembly during the session that will be held tomorrow morning, Monday. The session will be attended by the brothers vice president, prime minister, members of the Consultative Council, the Cabinet, the Supreme Judiciary Council, the High Court of Appeal, the Standing Committee, high-ranking armed forces and security officials, and members of Arab and foreign diplomatic corps in San'a'.

The Brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the armed forces, and secretary general of the General People's Council, received this afternoon at the presidency court the special committee formed from the People's Constituent Assembly during today's session under the chairmanship of 'Abd al-Karim al-'Arashi, vice president, chairman of the People's Constituent Assembly, and member of the Standing Committee, which conveyed to the brother president the results of the election held at today's session and the decision of the People's Assembly to elect Brother 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih as president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces for the upcoming period.

The president leader and secretary general of the General People's Congress, Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, addressed the chairman and members of the committee and said: I thank you and express through you to the masses of our people my gratitude for the great confidence they granted me. I insisted on not being elected to the presidency or nominating myself because of my eagerness to give the people the opportunity to chose their leader from among their ranks and to prove to the whole world that we are a people with an ancient civilization and apply whatever we say in our words, behavior and deeds. We also wanted to emphasize to the world our democratic experience, which is free of outbiddings, and that the authority in our country is in the hands of the people to (?elect) whomever they want through the main democratic channel and their representatives.

The brother leader and secretary general of the General People's Congress talked about the achieved security, stability, and national unity in our country today. He addressed the committee members and said: We have always been eager to obtain our power from the people in everything we do, and whatever has been realized in our country is due to the cooperation, support and power of the people. The people are rich with their men, scientists and intellectuals. [Words indistinct] Today, I stand before a task that I regard as most dangerous, and that is the shouldering of responsibility, (?and my mission is) to represent the will of the people. I bear this great responsibility as a loyalty to the confidence of the people with the aid of God. I ask God to help us as He did in the past.

The People's Constituent Assembly held a meeting at 0900 this morning under the chairmanship of 'Abd al-Karim al-'Arashi, vice president, chairman of the People's Constituent Assembly, and member of the Standing Committee, in order to complete the constitutional procedures and elect a president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces. After the brother chairman of the assembly opened the meeting, he pointed out that this important and historic session of the People's Constituent Assembly, which was held in response to the people's call, is very important because it is regarded as a new phase in our Yemeni people's life. He noted that Brother 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih is the sole candidate for the presidency of the next period.

Following that a discussion was held among the members, who talked about the factors which made the assembly and Yemeni people declare their loyalty to the Brother Leader Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih as president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces for the upcoming period. They affirmed that when the assembly elected him it wanted to assert the will of the people displayed through their popular marches in all the districts of the republic and the flow of cables sent.

Then the chairman of the assembly declared the beginning of voting and the election was carried out in a democratic and constitutional way. The assembly members unanimously elected Brother 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih as president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces for the upcoming period. The brother president received the votes of all the members who attended the session, who totalled 140 members. There were 10 members absent without notification and 9 with notification.

Lebanese Minister Delivers Message to Salih

GF221911 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 22 May 83

[Excerpt] Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the armed forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, received Lebanese Finance Minister 'Adil Hamiyyah, who conveyed to the brother president leader and secretary general of the General People's Congress a letter from Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil dealing with the recent developments in Lebanese arena.

Departs San'a' 22 May
GF221919 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 22 May 83

[Excerpt] Lebanese Finance Minister 'Adil Hamiyyah left San'a' this afternoon after a brief visit to our country, during which he conveyed a letter to Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the armed forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, from Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil dealing with recent developments on Lebanese arena.

'Adil Hamiyyah stated that the president commander and secretary general has handed him a reply letter to Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil.

Prime Minister Receives Syrian Industry Minister
GF211312 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 21 May 83

[Text] Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani, prime minister and member of the Standing Committee, today received Syrian Industry Minister Mahmud Qadduri, who is currently visiting our country. Mr Mahmud Qadduri discussed the results of his talks with officials in the Ministry of Economy and Industry aimed at developing economic and industrial relations between the two fraternal countries.

The meeting was attended by Dr Hasan Makki, deputy prime minister for economic affairs and member of the Standing Committee; Brother Muhammad Hizam ash-Shawhati, minister of industry and economy; and the Syrian ambassador.

Lebanese Envoy Sees Mubarak, Makes Statement
NC211002 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0920 GMT 21 May 83

[Text] Cairo, 21 May (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received at Al-'Urubah Palace this morning 'Abd ar-Rahman as-Sulh, the envoy of Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil and nominee to the post of Lebanon's ambassador in Cairo.

Following the 75-minute meeting, As-Sulh said that he conveyed an oral message from Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil to President Mubarak connected with the latest developments.

As-Sulh added that he thanked President Mubarak in the name of the Lebanese president and the Lebanese people, with their various factions, for the President's honorable stands in serving the common fateful issues, particularly the Lebanese issue to which he pays much attention and for which he is still working. The Lebanese envoy further said that he explained to President Mubarak the latest developments in the Lebanese arena.

Answering a question whether Lebanon was likely to enter into negotiations with Syria to obtain its approval of the Lebanese agreement, As Sulh said: There are some possibilities of this.

Concerning the Arab reaction to the Lebanese agreement, the envoy said that what he discussed with President Mubarak today concerned the post-agreement stage.

Asked about the Egyptian support and backing for the Lebanese stand, As-Sulh affirmed that it fully supports and backs all aspects of the Lebanese stand.

Asked whether he discussed with President Mubarak today the duties of the post of his country's ambassador to Egypt, As-Sulh said: We have actually disregarded these formalities.

Regarding his impressions about the Syrian stand, the envoy said: I do not believe that hope is lost. There is an interest in continuing the dialogue between Lebanon and Syria. It is hoped that positive and satisfactory results will be reached in the future.

Regarding the attitude of Saudi Arabia and whether it has communicated its stand on the Lebanese agreement, As-Sulh said: We have been informed that Saudi Arabia approves whatever is in the interests of the Lebanese question and the Lebanese people.

In conclusion, As-Sulh said he will return to Lebanon and then return to Cairo.

Ali Meets Envoy
NC211417 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1330 GMT 21 May 83

[Text] Cairo, 21 May (MENA) — Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali today met with 'Abd ar-Rahman as-Sulh, Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil's envoy and nominee to the post of Lebanon's ambassador in Cairo.

After the meeting, As-Sulh answered a question on whether the Lebanese-Israeli agreement had affected Lebanon's status in the Arab League by saying: We consider that Lebanon is still a member of the Arab League and that what has happened will not affect Lebanon's continuity in the Arab League, while pointing out that the Arab states supported Lebanon in this phase.

Replying to a question on whether the Arab League should have met to discuss the agreement, the Lebanese envoy said Lebanon had notified the Arab states that there were negotiations, that there was no other course for securing the foreign forces' withdrawal, and that the Arab states had approved this course. He added: When the solution is comprehensive, the withdrawal must also be comprehensive. He expressed the hope that the dialogue with Syria will begin to achieve this.

Ghali Receives Salim Message
NC221408 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 22 May 83

[Text] Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali today met with Lebanese special envoy 'Abd ar-Rahman as-Sulh, who said he handed a message from the Lebanese foreign minister to Dr Ghali explaining the developments in Lebanon in light of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement on the Israeli forces' withdrawal from Lebanon and the contacts which Lebanon is holding to implement this agreement. As-Sulh added that the message expresses Lebanon's gratitude to Egypt for its efforts and support for the Lebanese cause.

Mubarak Receives Habib; 'Ali Makes Statement
NC211236 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 21 May 83

[Excerpts] President Husni Mubarak received this morning Philip Habib, the envoy of the U.S. president to the Middle East. Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali and U.S. Ambassador in Cairo Alfred Atherton attended the meeting.

'Ali said that Habib's meeting with President Mubarak dealt with the contacts which the United States has held with the various sides in the past few days regarding the departure of the Israeli and all foreign forces from Lebanon as well as with the current steps which the United States is taking in participation with the states in the area to push forward these efforts.

Regarding Egypt's view on this matter, 'Ali said that the Egyptian view, which was declared by President Mubarak, fully supports the decision made by the Lebanese parliament and government vis-a-vis the agreement between Lebanon and Israel. Egypt, he added, appeals to all sides to shoulder their historic responsibilities to ensure the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon, including the Israeli forces.

Concerning the president's meeting with Lebanese presidential envoy 'Abd a-Rahman as-Sulh, 'Ali said: The meeting dealt with the agreement between Israel and Lebanon and the steps which Lebanon — the government and people — is taking in an attempt to push forward the settlement efforts, particularly the steps

taken in the direction of Syria to achieve a simultaneous withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon.

'Ali said: The United States started a dialogue with Syria during Shultz's tour and Syria must continue the dialogue. We hope Syria will take another good step.

'Abd ar-Rahman as-Sulh conveyed an oral message from the Lebanese president to President Husni Mubarak connected with the developments on the Lebanese arena.

Chad Situation Watched With 'Extreme Concern'

NC211340 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1310 GMT 21 May 83

[Text] Cairo, 21 May (MENA) — A Foreign Ministry official source said that Egypt is watching with extreme concern the developments of the situation in Chad, the suspicious movements and the conspiratorial attempts by some foreign forces against Chad's safety and stability.

The source said that Egypt, while warning these forces which have persisted in plotting against the state of Chad from interfering in its domestic affairs, reaffirms its support and backing for the legitimate government in Ndjamena and for the fraternal Chadian people's struggle for the sake of safeguarding their national independence and territorial integrity.

'Ali Discusses Foreign Policy Issues 21 May

NC211855 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 21 May 83

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has said reinforcing the Egyptian defense capability is considered by the Egyptian political leadership a vital matter for protecting the homeland's security from any danger threatening it and for protecting development efforts. On this basis, the peace strategy does not mean abandoning the strengthening of defensive capabilities, mastering the most modern military developments, and diversifying armaments sources. He affirmed Egypt's adherence to the peace policy in view of the fact that it is a strategic option.

This was contained in a lecture 'Ali delivered tonight at the Economy and Legislation Society in Cairo on the economic dimension of Egypt's external policy.

On Egyptian-Arab relations, Kamal Hasan 'Ali affirmed that Egypt's national affiliation is a fateful commitment. He said Egypt does not accept harming the Arab Gulf states' security and it firmly stands against threats and actions aimed at violating their peoples' rights to a secure and stable life.

He said Egypt's support for Iraq is based on the duty of Egypt's national affiliation and comes within the framework of Iraq's defense of its borders.

On integration between Egypt and Sudan, 'Ali affirmed that this integration's national Arab dimension gives it a deeper dimension.

On Egyptian-African relations, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said Egypt believes the African Continent represents the vital strategic depth for Egypt and the Nile Valley represents the heart of this depth.

On Egypt's relations with the Asian countries, 'Ali said President Husni Mubarak's visits to Japan, the PRC, the DPRK, Indonesia, and Pakistan have affirmed the strengthening of relations between Egypt and these countries.

On Egypt's relations with the United States and the European Community countries, Kamal Hasan 'Ali said the United States and the European Community are participating in bolstering the Egyptian economy, without sacrificing Egypt's independence and its freedom of movement — precisely without any links with pacts or military bases — and preserving its role in the Nonaligned Movement. He said that at the same time Egypt is working at developing its relations with the East European countries, and that this became clear in Egypt's relations with Romania, Yugoslavia, and Hungary.

'Ali, Abu Ghazalah on Ra's Banas Issue

JN211946 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1915 GMT 21 May 83

[Text] In Cairo Kamal Hasan 'Ali, Egyptian deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has stated that Egypt wants to promote its defensive capabilities, but without accepting foreign bases on its soil or sacrificing its freedom of movement. He added that Egypt endeavors to benefit from its relations with the United States and Europe without harming its independence or joining military pacts. Kamal Hasan 'Ali asserted that Egypt's peace strategy will not keep Egypt from drumming up its defenses or diversifying its arms sources. He added that the Egyptian security borders are the same as those of the Arab homeland.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali made these statements following the reports by informed soruces in Cairo that the Egyptian-U.S. negotiations on Ra's Banas on the Red Sea have been postponed indefinitely.

In anothe rdevelopment, Egyptian Defense Minister Field Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, in statements to *Al-Musawwar* magazine, said that the United States should inform Cairo in advance of its facility needs. He stressed that Egypt has accepted the principle of facilities for the defenseof the Gulf states, which must first approve a U.S. intervention on their territory, otherwise these facilities would be of no use, as he put it.

'Ali on U.S. Facilities

NC212054 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 21 May 83

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has said Egypt has offered to grant the United States and some other friendly states limited facilities at the Egyptian Ra's Banas base to help any Arab or Islamic state that asks for such assistance to repel any direct armed attack affecting its sovereignty and independence.

Commenting on the Ra's Banas base issue, the deputy prime minister and foreign minister added that within the framework of this offer, consultations were held between Egypt and the United States on its participation in developing the Egyptian base and raising its efficiency, provided Egypt's sovereignty over its territories and complete control over every part of them will not be infringed, along with the complete safeguarding of Egypt's nonaligned policy, whose bases and principles it had established.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali said that in view of the difficulty of reconciling the legal and procedural (?bases) and principles in each of the two countries, it has been decided that Egypt should undertake to develop its Egyptian base at Ra's Banas by its own capabilities, and according to the requirements and prerequisites of Egyptian national security, in a manner that would enable it to carry out its national role and commitments toward the fraternal Arab States.

Further on Dispute

JN212102 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 2040 GMT 21 May 83

[Telephone dispatch by Radio Monte Carlo correspondent in Cairo Huda Tawfiq, carried in the "Panorama" program — recorded]

[Text] Official circles here have revealed the nature of the differences that emerged during the negotiations between Egypt and the United States on the use of the Egyptian base in Ra's Banas on the Red Sea.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has proposed to give temporary facilities to the United States to use them in the event an Arab or Islamic state comes under attack.

During the negotiations on developing the Egyptian base, Egypt stressed that no measures should harm the Egyptian sovereignty over its territory. Legal and procedural differences emerged which the two sides failed to resolve. For example, Egypt turned down a U.S. request that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers should assume the construction section in the Egyptian base as this contravenes Egyptian laws. Due to the difficulty, rapproach ement between the legal and procedural requirements in either country, it has been decided that Egypt should develop the base with its intrinsic capabilities and in accordance with the requirements of Egyptian national security.

In another development, Egypt reiterated its commitment to giving temporary facilities in the event the security and sovereignty of any Arab state are endangered.

European Parliament Delegation Arrives 20 May

NC202021 Cairo MENA in English 1910 GMT 20 May 83

[Text] Cairo, May 20 (MENA) — A European parliamentary delegation, including the Christian Democratic deputies, arrived here tonight on a three-day visit to Egypt at the invitation of Dr Sufi Abu Talib, speaker of the People's Assembly.

The delegation will meet tomorrow with Dr Sufi Abu Talib.

It will discuss with Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, the latest developments of the Arab area and Middle East.

They will also discuss means to promote bilateral relations between the Egyptian People's Assembly and the European Parliament.

Assembly Speaker Receives Group

NC211504 Cairo MENA in English 1315 GMT 21 May 83

[Text] Cairo, May 21 (MENA) — People's Assembly speaker Dr. Sufi Abu Talib received today a delegation of the Christian Democrat deputies at the European Parliament currently visiting.

Dr. Abu Talib hailed during the meeting the European Parliament's efforts to settle the Middle East crisis especially to find out an ever-lasting and just solution to the Palestinian problem.

Dr. Abu Talib underlined Egypt's stance towards the necessity of the Israeli forces' pull-out from Lebanon and conducting negotiations between Israel and a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation to resume the autonomy negotiations.

He also expressed hope that Syrian forces would withdraw from Lebanon and that Syria conducts talks with Israel to restore the Golan Heights.

He [word indistinct] the foreign capital investment fields in Egypt especially in the domain of the Egypt-Sudan integration projects.

The chairman of the visiting delegation of the European Parliament said during the meeting that his visit aims at getting acquainted with the dimensions and facts of the Middle East situation, starting with Egypt as being a pioneer in the Arab area and due to its prominent role in achieving peace.

The meeting was attended by deputy speakers of the People's Assembly Sayyid Zaki and Mukhtar 'Abd al-Hamid as well as chairman of the assembly's Foreign Relations Committee Dr Muhammad 'Abd al-Ilah.

The visiting delegation had arrived here last night on a three-day visit.

Ghali Meets Delegation

NC221458 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1315 GMT 22 May 83

[Text] Cairo, 22 May (MENA) — Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali today met with the European Parliament delegation, which includes representatives of the European Parliament's Christian Democratic parties grouping, led by (Paolo Barbi). [Words indistinct] Egypt's role in serving the cause of peace in the Middle East and Europe's desire to strengthen its cooperation with Egypt in all fields.

Dr Ghali explained Egypt's position on the Middle East question. He affirmed Egypt's support for the agreement on the Israeli forces' withdrawal from Lebanon and stressed the need to exert intensive efforts, which Europe would participate in, to guarantee this agreement's implementation.

Delegation Departs 22 May
NC222122 Cairo MENA in English 2055 GMT 22 May 83

[Text] Cairo, May 22 (MENA) — The European Parliament delegation left here tonight for Israel at the end of a three-day visit to Egypt.

Members of the delegation have met with speaker of the People's Assembly Dr Sufi Abu Talib and State Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali.

The delegation's members have also visited a number of archaeological sites in Cairo.

(ENDALL) 222055/SURREY/NS 22/2136Z MAY

Nile Valley Parliament Members Appointed
NC201442 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1227 GMT 20 May 83

[Text] Cairo, 20 May (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has issued a Republican decree appointing 30 members to the Egyptian side of the Nile Valley Parliament — those having the qualifications and who are interested in integration affairs — for a term of 2 years. They are in addition to the 30 members of the People's Assembly elected last week.

The 30 members are: Dr Muhammad Subhi 'Abd al-Hakim, Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz Muhammad Hijazi, Ahmad Fu'ad Mahmud Fu'ad 'Amr, eng 'Uthman Ahmad 'Uthman, Mrs Nawal Muhammad Amin 'Amir, Dr 'Atif Muhammad Najib Sidiqi, Dr Mahmud Muhammad Mahfuz, Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz Muhammad 'Isa, Dr Mahmud Muhammad Dawud, Mustafa Kamil Murad, Muhammad Salah ad-Din ar-Rashidi, Dr 'Adil 'Abd al-Hamid 'Izz, Dr 'Abd al-Ahad Jamal ad-Din, Dr Abu al-Wafa al-Ghunaymi at-Taftazani, 'Ali Muhammad 'Ali Mansur, Dr Ahmad Salamah Muhammad Salamah, Ibrahim Sa'd Ahmad Hijris, Mansur Ibrahim Husayn, Muhammad Sabri Abu al-Majd, 'Abd ar-Rahman Ash-Sharqawi, Abu Bakr Ahmad Jad al-Mawla, Ibrahim Najib Ibrahim, Ahmad Ahmad al-'Immawi, Dr Shafiqah Salih Hasan Nasir, 'Abd ar-Rahman 'Abd al-Hadi Khadr, 'Izzat Muhammad Ghaydan, Dr Muhammad 'Abd al-Ghani Sa'udi, Dr Miryat Butrus Ghali, Dr Muhammad 'Abd al-Fattah al-Qassas, and Yusuf Muhammad Husayn Nassar.

Iranian Battle Losses Reported 19-22 May

Communique No 1,097

JN201641 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1615 GMT 20 May 83

[Text] Baghdad, 20 May (INA) — Iraq has said that its forces have killed 12 Iranian soldiers — 8 in the central sector, 3 in the Maysan sector, and 1 in the northern sector — and destroyed 1 106-mm gun and 4 infantry positions. A military communique issued here this evening on the military operations noted that the Iranian forces yesterday shelled Mandali and its outskirts, wounding a civilian and damaging a number of civilian establishments. The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 1,097 issued by the Armed Forces General Command. In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With high morale, the noble Iraqis continued their daring activities in the operational sectors against the rancorous Iranian regime. The following are the results for last night and today:

1. Our forward units attacked an enemy unit opposite our positions in the central operational sector, killing eight and destroying one 106-mm gun and four infantry positions.

2. Three were killed and one hardware stockpile destroyed in the Maysan operational sector.

3. One was killed and one infantry position destroyed in the northern operational sector.

4. The vile Khomeyniite clique last night shelled Mandali and itsoutskirts, wounding a civilian and damaging a number of civilian establishments.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 20 May 1983

Communique No 1,098

JN211650 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1615 GMT 21 May 83

[Text] Baghdad, 21 May (INA) — An Iraqi military communique issued here today noted that the Iraqi forces killed four Iranian soldiers, wounded a number of others, and destroyed four infantry positions and a quantity of war materiel in the operational sectors over the past 24 hours.

Communique No 1,098 issued by the Armed forces General Command pointed out that the ruling Khomeyniite clique today shelled Zurbatiyah, damaging a number of civilian establishments. The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 1,098 issued by the Armed Forces General Command: In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The brave sons of Iraq and the Arab nation continued their daring activities in the operational sectors against the despicable Iranian enemy. The following are the results for last night and today:

1. Our forward units attacked an enemy troop concentration opposite our positions in the central operational sector, killing two, wounding others, and destroying three infantry positions, one hardware stockpile, one observation post, and one antiaircraft gun.

2. Two were killed east of Basra.

3. One excavator was destroyed in the northern operational sector.

4. One infantry position was destroyed, killing all those manning it, in the Maysan operational sector.

5. The ruling Khomeyniite clique today shelled Zurbatiyah and its environs. The bestial shelling caused some damage to a number of civilian establishments.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 21 May 1983

Communique No 1,099

JN[illegible]1628 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT [illegible] May 83

[Communique No 1,099 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 22 May]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The brave soldiers of Saddam's Al-Qadisiyah are continuing their valiant activities against the forces of the suspect Khomeyniite regime in the operational sectors. The results for yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. Our forward units pounded an enemy concentration opposite our positions in the northern sector of the battlefield, killing nine, wounding others, and destroying two vehicles, one of which was carrying personnel.

2. One of our forward units opened fire on an enemy concentration opposite our positions east of Basra, killing five.

3. One vehicle, one infantry position, and one observation post were destroyed in the central sector of the battlefield.

4. Yesterday seven enemy soldiers sought refuge with one of our forward units in the Maysan sector. They were evacuated to the rear with their weapons in complete safety.

5. Today the spiteful Khomeyniite clique shelled Zurbatiyah and its suburbs with artillery, damaging some civilian establishments.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 22 May 1983

Iraq Denies Reports on Abadan Shelling

JN212008 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1955 GMT 21 May 83

[Text] Baghdad, 21 May (INA) — Iraq has dismissed Iranian claims of Iraqi shelling of Abadan yesterday and Ilam today. In a statement to INA, Minister of Information and Culture Latif Nusayyif Jasim described as completely unfounded the Iranian claims contained in a military communique transmitted by

IRNA that the Iraqi forces have bombarded Abadan and the (Jawar) area.

The minister emphasized that Iraqi military units did not carry out any activities against either Abadan or any other Iranian town. He added that the Iranian claims are mere lies to distract world public opinion and the Iranian people from the Iranian regime's daily attacks on the Iraqi border towns and peaceful citizens.

Lebanese Envoy Arrives in Baghdad 20 May
JN202128 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2000 GMT 20 May 83

[Text] Baghdad, 20 May (INA) — 'Adil Hamiyyah, Lebanese minister of finance and President Amin al-Jumayyil's envoy to President Saddam Husayn, arrived here tonight. Hamiyyah will convey an oral message to President Saddam from President al-Jumayyil dealing with developments in Lebanon and the Arab region.

In a statement to INA, the Lebanese minister said that Lebanon is now passing through a delicate stage and is focusing its efforts on liberating the (?land) from occupation. He added that Lebanon is endeavoring to acquaint all the Arab leaders with the nature of these developments.

Saddam Husayn Receives Envoy
JN211048 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1035 GMT 21 May 83

[Text] Baghdad, 21 May (INA) — President Saddam Husayn received the envoy of Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil this morning.

The Lebanese envoy, Finance Minister 'Adil Hamiyyah, explained the situation in Lebanon and the Lebanese Government's stand on the agreement it signed with the Zionist entity.

The meeting was attended by 'Issat Ibrahim, RCC vice chairman, and Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister.

Envoy Departs 21 May
JN211344 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1325 GMT 21 May 83

[Text] Baghdad, 21 May (INA) — 'Adil Hamiyyah, personal envoy of Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil to President Saddam Husayn and minister of finance, left Baghdad this afternoon after conveying to the president the Lebanese Government's position on its recent agreement with the Zionist entity.

Ba'th Party Issues Statement on Lebanon
JN221444 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1225 GMT 22 May 83

[Text] Baghdad, 22 May (INA) — The Arab Socialist Ba'th Party stressed that the agreement concluded between Lebanon and the Zionist entity under the leadership of the United States harms Lebanon's sovereignty and constitutes a restriction to this sovereignty, no matter how much the parties that believe in it try to minimize the impact of this restriction. It added that this agreement can turn into a bridgehead for Zionism, by which it can tamper with the Arab homeland.

A statement issued here today by the National Command of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party added that by this agreement, the Zionist entity imposed a new agreement on an Arab country through the new defect in the balance of power created by the deterioration and disintegration of the Arab situation and by the Israeli invasion of Lebanon.

The Arab Socialist Ba'th Party said that this agreement is a link in the imperialist-Zionist scheme to impose capitulation on the Arab nation. This link is not isolated from the previous links, and the enemy will do its utmost to utilize it in the service of subsequent links that are being planned by the Zionists with the full support and backing of the United States and with the full collusion of all the Arab nation's enemies.

The statement added: The Ba'th Party simply cannot approve any agreement that mortgages the sovereignty of any Arab country to the enemy, isolates it from the Arab nation, or uses it as a means for imposing capitulation on one or several Arab countries. This agreement is part of a scheme to impose hegemony on the Arab nation and aims, among other things, at completely liquidating the Palestinian revolution and the central Arab cause.

The Arab Socialist Ba'th Prty called on the Arab masses everywhere, particularly the Lebanese masses, to display the highest degrees of vigilance and caution and to promote their struggle to the level of the challenge and danger facing the Arab nation.

The statement warned the Arab masses that this agreement may lead to further Lebanese-Israeli relations, which are not provided for by the agreement, through the collusion of some agent forces or the pressure of Israel and the United States under the cover of the so-called normalization of relations.

The Arab Socialist Ba'th Party called on the Arab masses and militant forces to confront all attempts to expand this agreement to include other arenas or countries under any umbrella. It also called on the Arab masses in the entire Arab homeland and the national forces in Lebanon to struggle to preserve and deepen the unity of Lebanon, both the land and the people, by foiling the partition schemes that bet on sectarian conflicts, and to strengthen Lebanon by extending Arab economic, military, and political support to it in order to provide the Lebanese masses with better conditions to continue their struggle and attain their national and social aims.

The statement called for the evacuation of the Syrian forces from Lebanon and enforcing the law over all Lebanese national soil. It also called for the evacuation of the Iranian mercenary groups that infiltrated Lebanon on the pretext of resisting the Zionist invasion when their actual role was to coordinate their common objectives with the Zionist enemy in Lebanon.

The statement called for the adoption of firm and radical measures against those persons and groups whose collaboration and

alliance with the Zionist enemy have been proven. It also called for strongly encouraging Lebanon to pursue a nonaligned policy and to leave the circle of world power struggle in order to guarantee its own unity and independence and to consolidate the exercise of democracy at all levels and in all fields.

The statement called for the achievement of internal accord to guarantee the broadest political support for the policy that safeguards Lebanon's unity and sovereignty, frees it from its heavy chains, and enables it to agree on a democratic program for the development of the country.

The statement strongly attacked the Syrian regime, considering its entry into Lebanon in 1976 a serious and anomalous event that has led to complications in the situation in the Lebanese and Palestinian arena, confusion, and prolonging fratricide and sedition by turning political forces against one another.

The statement said that the Syrian regime's presence in Lebanon has resulted in the division, fragmentation, and weakness of the domestic front in Lebanon through internecine fighting among the various Lebanese and Palestinian forces, the fabrication of divisions between certain forces, the unleashing of the sword of material and political terror everywhere, and the widespread corruption that has had its effect on society and human relations.

All this that Syria has done in the name of the Arabs and the Arab League, has deepened isolationist, sectarian, and regional conflicts in Lebanon.

The Arab Socialist Ba'th Party affirmed that the entry of the Syrian regime's forces in Lebanon has been another factor in the deterioration of the Arab situation. It has led to the collapse of the domestic front in a country neighboring on occupied Palestine. Yet, Syria stood by as spectator during the Zionist enemy's repeated attacks on southern Lebanon. It then retreated in defeat, or feigned defeat, before the Zionist invasion of Lebanon, and left the Palestinian resistance fighting heroically alone in Beirut.

The statement noted that in its relations with other Arab countries that could have assisted Lebanon in confronting the Zionist invasion, the Syrian regime has always endeavored to foil any possibility of a pan-Arab formula that would guarantee a new Arab confrontation of Zionist schemes in Lebanon, even in the Golan Heights, which were annexed by the enemy without Syria making a single move.

In its statement, the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party explained that the first thing the Syrian regime, which was very eager to prolong Iraq's preoccupation with it defensive war against the racist Persian enemy, did was to provide Iran with technical and military aid, to allow repeated violations of Iraqi airspace by Syrian planes, and to incite the defeated Khomeyni regime to continue launching its abortive aggressive attacks by claiming that the nationalist revolutionary regime in Iraq was about to collapse.

The statement noted that the Syrian regime's latest attempt to keep Iraq from performing its pan-Arab task in Lebanon was the formation of the tripartite alliance with the Libyan regime and the suspect racist Khomeyniite regime to guarantee the continuation of the war.

The statement affirmed that through its armed and military intervention in Lebanon, the Syrian regime turned it into an arena for international conflict and enabled international schemes to assume their fullest dimensions to an extent that threatened the unity of Lebanon and exposed its land and people to the threat of partition.

The statement also affirmed that the withdrawal of Syrian forces from Lebanon prior to the Zionist invasion would have created a political situation that would have surrounded such an invasion with numerous regional and international complications. It noted that their withdrawal after the invasion would have made it easier, on the Arab and international levels, to achieve an earlier Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon and perhaps without any conditions. [as received].

The statement explained that the crimes of the Syrian regime in Lebanon were endless. It said that the regime, whose forces did not fight any battle against the Zionist entity's allied forces, particularly in the south, committed horrific crimes against the Palestinian resistance in several areas, particularly at Tal az-Za'tar and in the mountain battles. In cooperation with its ally, the Libyan regime, the Syrian regime continued its attempts to divide the PLO and to undermine its unity as a continuation of its firm policy in splitting all the forces and in weakening the struggle on the Lebanese and Palestinian arenas.

President Receives Soviet Ambassador in Baghdad

JN211652 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1645 GMT 21 May 83

[Text] Baghdad, 21 May (INA) — This afternoon, President Saddam Husayn received Soviet Ambassador to Iraq Viktor Minin. The relations between Iraq and the Soviet Union and the situation in the region were discussed during the meeting. Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Khalid 'Abd al-Mun'im, director of the presidential office, were present.

Tariq 'Aziz Arrives in Paris 22 May

JN221854 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1840 GMT 22 May 83

[Text] Paris, 22 Amy (INA) — Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, arrived in Paris tonight heading a delegation on a working visit to France.

Tariq 'Aziz will hold talks with French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson as a continuation of the official talks between Iraq and France that 'Aziz began during his visit to the French capital on 9 May.

Ar-ra'y Comments on Habib's New Mission

JN201034 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 20 May 83

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Philip and the Game of Peace," *Ar-ra'y says: Philip Habib has returned to the region once again.* He held talks in Beirut and then went to Riyadh, via Cairo, where he held talks with the Egyptian assistant foreign minister at the airport, before heading for the Saudi capital.

In light of the reports published in U.S. newspapers, it seems that Habib came to the region to ask Arab parties to convince Syria that its rejection of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement should not prevent it from pulling its forces out of Lebanon. This was disclosed by the newspapers when they cited the U.S. secretary of state as saying that the Arab countries should play a role in convincing Syria to change its position.

What is attracting attention is that at a time when the U.S. Administration is rewarding Israel for the agreement by promising to lift the embargo on ther U.S. F-16's, and while Habib is looking for Arab parties to mediate with Syria, Israel is escalating its provocations against Syria by its announcement yesterday that the inhabitants of the Golan Heights will be included in Israel's population census that will take place in few days.

Ar-ra'y says: It is obvious that this announcement, which was disseminated by Israeli media, is a stumbling block in the solution of the Lebanese problem, especially since U.S. sources have not commented on it while watching Israel turn the inhabitants of the Syrian territory into Israeli citizens, contrary to all international charters and resolutions.

Ar-ra'y concludes: Obviously, the Israeli behavior and the U.S. silence indicate that the intention to resolve the Lebanese problem remains unclear. Therefore, Habib's mission in the region will be an attempt to put the ball in the Arab court, so the U.S. Administration can claim in the future that it did its utmost to resolve the problem but the other countries did not cooperate. Such a claim cannot ignore the fact that the Arabs did not reject the just and honorable peace at any time, and that peace cannot be turned into a tactical game governed by the special U.S.-Israeli relations.

Ad-Dustur Comments on Lifting of F-16 Embargo

JN210925 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 21 May 83

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "More Arms, More Extremism," *Ad-Dustur says: President Reagan has lifted the ban he imposed* on the sale of F-16 planes to Israel. Since one of Menahem Begin's close aides said that the U.S. President's decision did not surprise Israel, then we believe that this decision did not surprise anyone at all. The special U.S.-Israeli relations, and the nature and aims of the alliance between Washington and Tel Aviv, do not allow for the prevention of any form of U.S. political, economic, or military aid to the Zionist entity.

President Reagan imposed the ban because Israel invaded and occupied Lebanon, yet Israel has continued to occupy the West Bank, Gaza Strip, and the Syrian Golan Heights for the past 16 years. Although the invasion and occupation of Lebanon was, as the Israelis have always affirmed, a temporary measure aimed at protecting the Galilee, the invasion and occupation of the West Bank, Gaza Strip, and Golan Heights is a permanent measure aimed at their Judaization and annexation by Israel. What happened to the Syrian Golan Heights will happen to the West Bank and the Gaza Strip because the announcement of their legal annexation by the so-called land of Israel is only a matter of time.

Here a question may be asked: Is there a difference between one form of invasion and occupation and another? Is there an invasion that deserves U.S. condemnation, pressure, and censure and another that does not?

We have always affirmed that only a comprehensive peace can survive and last. We have also said that a lack of courageous U.S. action on the crux of the Middle East crisis will continue to be the principal cause of the continuation of the crisis and its occasional flare-ups. If the U.S. position on the invasion and occupation of Lebanon is to be considered just, even though it is the bare minimum of what is acceptable, then a similar U.S. position must be adopted on the Israeli invasion and occupation of the West Bank, Gaza Strip, and Syrian Golan Heights.

Ad-Dustur concludes: It remains for us to wonder about the meaning of self defense, as suggested by the U.S. Department of Defense. The department described the U.S. aircraft deal with Israel as being in harmony with U.S. policy, based on a guarantee that Israel obtain the arms necessary for self- defense. Have all the Israeli military operations with U.S. arms been in self-defense? Can the invasion and destruction of Lebanon and the bombing of the Iraqi nuclear reactor be described as an act of self-defense? The Arabs alone are in need of arms and support to defend themselves within their borders, a fact which they and the world are aware.

Libyan Envoy Delivers Al-Qadhdhafi's Letter

JN201812 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 20 May 83

[Text] His Highness Crown Prince Hasan received at the Royal Hashemite Court today 'Abd al-Majid al-Qa'ud, secretary of energy and envoy of Libyan President Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, who delivered to his highness a letter from Col Al-Qadhdhafi to His Majesty King Husayn.

Reportage on European Visit by Elie Salim

Statement Upon Return

NC221940 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 22 May 83

[Text] Minister of Foreign and Expatriates Affairs Dr Elie Salim this evening returned to Beirut from Paris at the conclusion of a European tour that has taken him to Italy, the Vatican, the FRG, and France. Minister Salim spoke to newsmen at Beirut Airport. He said:

[Begin recording] The purpose of this tour was to establish direct contact with Italian Foreign Minister Colombo, the Vatican's Agostino Cardinal Casaroli, FRG Foreign Minister Genscher, and Mr Cheysson.

I held a long telephone conversation with Secretary Shultz. We discussed the Lebanese issue. I then also talked to Secretary Pym.

The purpose of this tour was to secure a European consensus behind the agreement concluded by Lebanon, and to secure Europe's support for Lebanon's position. I am pleased that there is a European consensus on full and serious support for Lebanon. European-U.S. efforts are also being exerted to complete the Lebanese process and to end the crisis.

The telephone conversation with Mr Shultz was very useful. Mr Shultz' stance is optimistic, strong, courageous, and constructive. Therefore, we have determined that we are on the right track and that it is imperative this crisis should end in the near future. There is a European-U.S. preparedness for coordination with the Arab states to resolve the Lebanese crisis. All the states consider that Lebanon has suffered a great deal and that Lebanon now deserves to rest following this tragedy.

I also believe that Europe, the United States, and the Arabs have drawn the conclusion that Lebanon should be given the support that it needs to end this crisis.

[Question] Mr Minister: Through the Lebanese diplomacy and through your present tour, it is known that Lebanon has requested an increase in the multinational force and in UNIFIL and, consequently, participation by some countries — which have not contributed up to now — in these forces. What is the position of these states on this request?

[Answer] Lebanon's present need of Europe and of the United States is a purely political need. I believe that when we reach the phase at which we will need more multinational forces, or UNIFIL forces, there can be no doubt that Lebanon will receive all the forces it needs, either through UNIFIL or through the multinational force. I assure you that there is no problem in this respect. The basic problem we are now tackling is obtaining a world political consensus to support Lebanon's progress toward the ending of the crisis. I believe we are about to witness the end of this crisis.

[Question] Mr Minister: Do you believe the Syrian stance is about to be resolved in the near future so as to bring about the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon?

[Answer] Where the ageement is concerned, Syria's attitude was to be expected. We have always expected His Excellency President al-Asad to oppose the Lebanese-Israeli agreement. However, at the same time, we expect Syria to determine that this decision is, fundamentally, a Lebanese decision, and to determine that it is Syria's right to ascertain that there is no provision, nothing, in this Lebanese-Israeli agreement that might in any way jeopardize Syria's security or Syria's interests.

We are ready to emphasize to sisterly Syria that the Lebanese-Israeli agreement is beneficial for Lebanon and that it is also beneficial for Syria. I believe that, God willing, the atmosphere will soon clear up. Then, it will become possible for us to hold serious and efficacious discussions that will ensure Syria's supreme interests, Lebanon's supreme interests, and the supreme Arab interests. It is impossble for Lebanon to conclude any agreement detrimental to Lebanon's sovereignty, to Syria's sovereignty, or to the Arab states' sovereignty and dignity.

Lebanon is a pioneering Arab state, Lebanon assumes its historical responsibilities, and Lebanon does not need to be given lessons in patriotism or in the fundamental stances, particularly in the basic national and historical stances.

We are confident of what we have done. Furthermore, we are certain this agreement is the sole means to ensure Lebanon's liberation. Let those who know of another means kindly speak out. However, for 6 months we were asking about and exploring other alternatives, and there was no Arab reply, apart from persisting in pursuing this course to ensure an agreement that will guarantee Lebanon's sovereignty, independence, and liberation.

Therefore, Lebanon had two options: Either this agreement, or Lebanon's occupation and Lebanon's end. In view of these two options, no one can do anything other than congratulate Lebanon on this agreement, congratulate Lebanon on the liberation of its territory, congratulate Lebanon on its dignity, and congratulate Lebanon on the recovery of its land for the lowest possible price. No Arab state has to this time made an achievement comparable to the one Lebanon has achieved with Israel. [end recording]

Minister on Syrian Agreement

NC220759 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 22 May 83

[Excerpts] Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim has concluded his European tour. He is expected to hold a press conference in Paris today prior to his return to Beirut in which he will talk about the results of his talks in Rome, Bonn, and Paris.

In Paris, the third and final stop in his European tour, to which he arrived from Bonn, Minister Salim said in his assessment of this tour and the contacts he held that the European states, particularly those participating in the multinational force, should not be disregarded.

Direct contact with these states must be maintained, especially since they have a method and interests different from those of

the United States. They can work for the Lebanese issue in a less clashing atmosphere [ajwa'un aqalla tasaduman].

He added: This does not mean that there is competition between Europe and the United States, but rather that there is U.S.-European integration and coordination for Lebanon which must be fed and guided. One of the fruits of this coordination was the agreement that the situation in lebanon will be the subject of serious discussion at the summit conference of industrial states in Williamsburg next week.

Regarding Lebanese-Syrian relations, Minister Salim affirmed that Lebanon understands Syria's position and is prepared to resolve the existing problems through dialogue in order to ensure Syria's interests and security and to define future relations with it. He described Lebanon's position vis-a-vis Syria as profoundly political and not diplomatic. He said: Damascus, in turn, understands the Lebanese situation objectively. President al-Asad told me that he knows and appreciates President al-Jumayyil's positions. But the problem now is that they do not appreciate the Lebanese victory through the Lebanese-Israeli agreement. They interpret the agreement in a different way. They interpret things while we adhere to the text.

Asked about the reported readiness of Lebanon to sign an agreement with Syria, he said: Lebanon is prepared to sign an agreement with Syria that will cover security and economic aspects and the future of bilateral relations in a manner that will ensure the interests demanded by Damascus.

Foreign Minister Salim expressed Lebanon's objection to any partial withdrawal. He declared the Lebanese Government's readiness, in case a sudden Israeli or Syrian withdrawal takes place, to send the Army immediately to the areas from which withdrawal takes place.

He pointed out that most of the Arab countries support the Lebanese position in the wake of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement. These include the states of the Gulf Cooperation Council and the Arab Maghreb.

Last Friday night during his stay in Rome, Minister Salim held a direct contact from the U.S. Embassy with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, lasting 30 minutes. The two ministers held consultations on the new developments in Lebanon and coordination of positions between the two governments.

Minister Salim declared that Shultz conveyed to him the determination of the United States to continue its support to the end to save Lebanon from its ordeal. He pointed out that the nature and length of the communication was tantamount to a visit to Washington.

Salim On Syrian Security

NC221336 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 22 May 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim said at a press conference he held in Paris that he held contacts with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and British Foreign Minister Francis Pym and found that they are determined to help Lebanon to the end. Minister Salim said that he explained to his colleagues in Italy, the Vatican and France the Lebanese-Israeli agreement and requested their support for the withdrawal of the foreign forces from Lebanon.

The foreign minister refused to compare the Israeli occupation of the Golan with the Israeli occupation of Lebanon because Israel occupies 1 percent of Syria in terms of territory and people while it occupies one-third of Lebanon in terms of territory and people.

Regarding Lebanon's readiness to grant security facilities to Syria and regarding the European role, Minister Salim said:

[Begin recording] Syria does not expect from Lebanon the same security arrangements which Lebanon has established with Israel, because the relations between Lebanon and Syria are completely different from the relations between Lebanon and Israel, and the Syrian fears in Lebanon are different from the Israeli fears in Lebanon. Therefore, if there are security issues to discuss, they can be discussed in a fundamentally different manner from the way in which Israel and Lebanon discussed security arrangements. There are, of course, many justified issues for discussion, and we are prepared to discuss them whenever Syria is prepared to do so.

I think that Europe now has an effective role to play in solving the Lebanese crisis, because the U.S.-Soviet conflict in the area is very sharp. Therefore, the European states, particularly France, can play a mediating role between the two and can ease the intensity of the conflict between the two states. We are expecting collective and individual European initiatives. I think that all these things will take their course in the coming few weeks. [end recording]

Radio Monte Carlo Interview

JN221354 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1205 GMT 22 May 83

[Text] Lebanese Foreign Minister Elie Salim left Paris for Beirut today following a European tour during which he visited Rome, Bonn, and Paris. He was supposed to go to London but due to his commitments in Beirut, Salim was satisfied with telephoning his UK counterpart Francis Pym.

Prior to his departure, Elie Salim received a number of journalists among whom was colleague Yusuf Dakkash, who addressed several questions to the Lebanese minister:

[Begin recording] [Question] Is it true that King Fahd is trying to hold a meeting between Presidents al-Jumayyil and Al-Asad?

[Answer] The Lebanese crisis, to a large extent, represents the crisis in the Arab World. The Arab conflicts in the 60's and early 70's led to the explosion in Lebanon. Therefore, it is expected that the entire Arab world shows concern with solving the Lebanese crisis and restoring security, sovereignty, and stability to Lebanon. Saudi Arabia can play a leading role here and other Arab countries can also play a role. I believe that Morocco,

Algeria, and Tunisia are states which are now concerned with the crisis. I believe that President al-Asad and President al-Jumayyil can meet without mediation. The relations on the personal and political levels are very good and there is complete harmony of ideas between His Excellency President Amin al-Jumayyil and His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad. There is mutual respect between the two. I believe that when the time comes you will see that the meeting takes place automatically. Of course, we thank any Arab leader who takes the initiative of attending such a meeting. The meeting in itself does not really need any third party.

[Question] Does this mean that you have not yet lost hope in changing Syria's stance on the agreement?

[Answer] We consider the Syrian stance natural and consider the Syrian-Lebanese relations are fateful and deep. We in Lebanon are ready to put these relations on a sound basis and to have talks with our brothers in Syria when they decide that the time is appropriate. My recent meeting with His Excellency President al-Asad was very cordial. Of course there are differences in opinions regarding this agreement but I have no doubt that we will surmount the fears. When it becomes clear to President al-Asad that the fears he sees in the agreement do not exist in reality and when he sees the Lebanese interpretation and intention to apply this agreement, the atmosphere, I believe, will become appropriate for serious, influential, and positive talks between Lebanon and Syria.

[Question] Regarding immediate withdrawals, do you think that the Lebanese authority will be capable of assuming the security responsibilities over all Lebanon?

[Answer] The Lebanese Army is ready to hold the responsibility in any village or area from which withdrawal will take place. If Israel or Syria decide to withdraw from an area, the Lebanese Army will be ready to enter this area within hours and provide security in it. This will be the case because the entire Lebanese people support the Army, the regime and legitimacy. The entire Lebanese people are thirsty for Lebanese security. Therefore, Lebanon does not need an army of hundreds of thousands of soldiers to entrench security but only needs the departure of all non-Lebanese forces from Lebanon. Backed by their Army, the Lebanese people would be able to provide security in Lebanon.

[Question] Mr Minister, is Lebanon prepared to give Syria security facilities similar to those given to Israel in the south?

[Answer] Syria does not anticipate security arrangements from Lebanon similar to those security arrangements Lebanon has established with Israel, because the relations between Lebanon and Syria differ completely from those between Lebanon and Israel. The Syrian fears in Lebanon are also different from the Israeli fears in Lebanon. Therefore, if there are security issues for discussion, it would be possible to discuss them in a manner that differs completely from the security arrangements Lebanon has established with Israel. Of course there are several issues that need to be discussed and we are ready to discuss them whenever Syria is prepared to discuss them. [end recording]

Replying to a question on the European role toward Lebanon in the present stage, he said:

[Begin recording] Europe now has an influential role in solving the Lebanese crisis because the U.S.-Soviet confrontation in the region is very hot and, therefore, the European states, particularly France, can play a mediatory role between the two to lighten the tone of confrontation between them. We are looking forward to seeing collective European initiatives as well as separate European initiatives. I believe that these matters will take place in the coming few weeks. [end recording]

This was the Lebanese minister's answer to a question on the European role toward Lebanon in the present stage.

Meeting With Al-Jumayyil, Habib

NC222044 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 22 May 83

[Text] A meeting was held in the Republican Palace this evening under the chairmanship of President of the Republic Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil. It was attended by Minister of Foreign and Expatriates Affairs Dr Elie Salim, U.S. presidential envoy Ambassador Philip Habib, and Habib's two assistants, Ambassador Draper and his assistant, Ross.

The conferees assessed the situation following Minister Salim's European tour and Ambassador Habib's tour of some Middle Eastern states. Foreign and Expatriates Affairs Minister Dr Elie Salim had earlier expressed his belief that Syria will withdraw from Lebanon, but Syria fears the interpretations of some of the agreement's provisions.

Al-Jumayyil Inspects Army Posts in Beirut

NC222159 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 22 May 83

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil has inspected Army roadblocks in some of the greater Beirut quarters. He was accompanied on his tour by Army Commander General Ibrahim Tannus. In Henry Shihab barracks in Al-Awza'i, his excellency met with a large number of officers and military personnel, including a group of cadets who graduated a few days ago. Afterward, President al-Jumayyil toured some of the roadblocks and met with the military personnel manning them, who briefed him on the conditions in their areas of deployment. His excellency concluded his tour by inspecting an Army emergency and rapid response center in the heart of the capital, and familiarized himself with the work of the center, which has been established within the framework of reinforcing security measures in greater Beirut.

RFL on Saudi Envoy's Visit, Syrian Stance

NC201246 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1145 GMT 20 May 83

[Text] Our radio has learned from informed Arab diplomatic sources that a Saudi envoy is expected to visit Beirut and Damas-

cus very soon for talks with the officials in the two capitals, within the framework of Saudi mediation to narrow the differences in views between Syria and Lebanon and to ensure a Syrian withdrawal from Al-Biqa' and the north.

These sources added that the postponement of the press conference which Syrian Assistant Foreign Minister Faruq ash-Shar' was scheduled to hold in order to announce Syrian measures against Lebanon was due to behind-the-scene contacts between Riyadh and Damascus.

The same sources said that Syria has informed Saudi Arabia that it wants to hold negotiations with Lebanon aimed at safeguarding Syria's borders with Lebanon, and that if this happens, Syria will change its position toward the agreement, especially since it became clear to it that Moscow will not support it in the case of a war between it and Israel.

Al-Wazzan Discusses Syrian Issue in Weekly

NC220924 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 22 May 83

[Text] Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan has warned that if the Israeli withdrawal does not take place for any reason, the subsequent results will be extremely dangerous to the overall situation in Lebanon and the area.

In an interview to be published by *Monday Morning* magazine tomorrow, Prime Minister al-Wazzan said that the position which Lebanon has taken to liberate its territory enjoys the support of most of the Arab states, including Saudi Arabia.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan expressed the hope that the Arab brothers, especially Saudi Arabia, will play a basic role in achieving direct understanding and agreement with Syria as soon as possible. He expects that the dialogue with Damascus and the Palestinian resistances will lead to their understanding of Lebanon's circumstances and the dangers facing it and to a unified stand which will safeguard Lebanon and the Arab interests.

More on Interview

NC221954 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1645 GMT 22 May 83

[Text] Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan has stated that the Lebanese-Israeli agreement will not keep even one Israeli soldier in Lebanon, that Lebanon was eager to safeguard the interests of Syria and the other Arabs, and that it refused in the agreement to be dragged to Israel's political recognition. He considered the agreement as being of a security character and as not detracting from the full Lebanese sovereignty.

This is contained in a comprehensive interview Prime Minister al-Wazzan has granted to the English-language weekly *Monday Morning, published in Beirut, regarding the Lebanese-Israeli* agreement. In this interview, the prime minister dots the I's and crosses the T's in a clear and frank way in the light of the criticisms made of the agreement.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan says: We live in a democratic country. We have reached, through the unity of the government and the unity of the people in their support of the government's stand on the Israeli occupation, a draft agreement which was presented to the Chamber of Deputies. The government earned full support for its policy and efforts to realize full sovereignty over all Lebanon.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan stresses: Not one Israeli soldier will reamin in Lebanon but there will be joint verification committees, not more than eight committees, under the command of a Lebanese commander in Lebanon. The armistice agreement stipulated the formation of similar committees under the command of a UN force commander. It is better for us to accept the presence of these committees for 2 years rather than allow the continuation of the occupation, which is the cause of the explosion and the dismemberment in Lebanon.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan further says: Israel will not have a representational office in Lebanon, but there are specific and definite arrangements which will be supervised by a tripartite Lebanese-American-Israeli liaison committee. He declares that the agreement contains absolutely nothing regarding Sa'd Haddad and that his status will be resolved at the appropriate time.

Al-Wazzan then says: Lebanon adopted an inflixible stand on the so-called normalization of the relations. This stand enables Lebanon to take a long time to tackle this question within the framework of safeguarding Lebanese interests on the local and Arab levels. The main trend is that the withdrawal should be completed so Lebanon may regain its health.

The Prime Minister announces that greater Beirut is indeed unaffected now by the security explosion from within. The real dangerous explosion occurs where the legitimate authority is not present and where the occupation remains. He says: The role of the forces present in the area is important, and the states participating in the multinational force should adhere to their role in Lebanon to restore peace to it. However, the Lebanese role in the national detente and solidarity is the most important.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan affirms that Lebanon studied the agreement well. He says: We wanted to safeguard the interests of Syria and other Arabs. We are inclined to believe that fraternal Syria will undoubtedly understand the reality of the Lebanese stand and will be a help to us in the departure of the Israeli occupier, or else the consequences will be extremely dangerous, particularly because the brothers' resources did not succeed in helping us find solutions to the question of our existence and fate.

The prime minister adds: The Lebanese stand enjoys the support of most of the Arab states. This was sensed by the Lebanese representatives delegated to explain the Lebanese stand to the Arab leaders. We aspire to a role by all the Arab brothers in this direction, particularly by Saudi Arabia. We aspire also to a direct cooperation, understanding, and agreement with the Syrian brothers. He affirms that the U.S. efforts were required in all the past stages and that they are needed in all the coming stages. We have American commitments to realize the withdrawals and restore Lebanese sovereignty over all our national soil.

Al-Wazzan Meets Philip Habib, Soldatov

NC231232 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 23 May 83

[Text] Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan today met with U.S. presidential envoy Ambassador Philip Habib to review with him local and regional developments and Habib's contacts in Egypt and Saudi Arabia.

After the 1-hour meeting, Ambassador Habib told reporters that Prime Minister al-Wazzan will talk to them and stressed that he is always optimistic.

When asked to change his usual habit and to speak, Habib told correspondents: I love you and Prime Minister al-Wazzan will speak to you.

Ambassador Habib this morning visited former Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam to review the general situation, particularly the reactions to the Lebanese-Israeli agreement. Habib also visited former President Camille Sham'un.

Quoting a spokesman of the prime minister's office, AP reports that Prime Minister al-Wazzan and Habib appraised the general situation in light of the results of the U.S. ambassador's latest tour in the area. Habib will meet with President al-Jumayyil later today in the presence of the prime minister.

At 1145 today, Prime Minister al-Wazzan met with Soviet Ambassador Aleksandr Soldatov to review the current situation and the post-agreement phase. The meeting was still in progress when this newscast was prepared.

Government Seeks Soviet Pressure on Syria

NC201752 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 20 May 83

[Text] Official sources said today that the government is preparing for the possibility that Israel will unilaterally withdraw its forces from the Ash-Shuf and 'Alayh areas to the Al-Awwali River and push matters to a dangerous point, in reply to the Syrian stand rejecting the Lebanese-Israeli agreement and a withdrawal from Lebanese territory.

The sources added that the Lebanese Government will be very embarrassed in the event of any partial Israeli withdrawal. The Lebanese Government cannot ask Israel to stay because every inch from which it withdraws is a Lebanese demand, but a withdrawal now may create a security vacuum, whose filling requires sufficient security personnel. The sources said the government has acted in all directions to strengthen the Multinational Force and increase its personnel so that it will be able to fill the vacuum that may occur in the areas from which the Israeli forces will withdraw.

Concerning the Lebanese-Israeli agreement and the Syrian opposition to it, the same sources said the issue now is in the hands of the major powers. The sources expressed satisfaction over the statement issued by the Gulf Cooperation Council yesterday, considering it supportive of the legitimate Lebanese authorities.

The sources added that as a result of the Syrian rejection, Israel has appeared as though it is a peaceful state.

Israel has started showing world public opinion that Syria is obstructing the implementation of the agreement, while at the same time Israel has emphasized its good intentions toward Lebanon by signing the agreement and agreeing to withdraw from Lebanon.

The sources disclosed that the government has asked Soviet Ambassador Aleksandr Soldatov for Moscow's help in putting pressure on Syria to change its stand on the agreement, and to enter into talks with Lebanon to reach agreement on its forces' withdrawal.

RFL Report on Efforts for Talks With Syria

NC201822 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in English 1745 GMT 20 May 83

[Text] The direct results of the intensified contacts abroad are coming from Rome, the first European port of call of Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim, and from Riyadh after Mr Philip Habib's talks with King Fahd and the authorities. But it will be necessary to wait for the outcome of the Arab tours of the Syrian Ministers Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad and Faruq ash-Shar' due to start tomorrow.

When this phase is over, the Lebanese regime will have in its hands all the data necessary to begin its opening to Damascus in order to enter the second part of the [word indistinct] solution for the withdrawal of all foreign forces, Israeli, Syrian, and Palestinian.

Informed sources say that a commencement of talks with the Syrian capital is possible in the near future, but it is desired that Saudi Arabia should make the opening move.

The Paris-based Arab language review *Al-Mustaqbal* has in today's edition quoted a highly placed Saudi source as saying that Saudi Arabia will do what the current phase demands of her for the withdrawal of the Syrians from Lebanon.

Envoy Meets With Iraqi President In Baghdad

NC210815 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 21 May 83

[Text] Following his meeting with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn this morning, Finance Minister 'Adil Hamiyyah, envoy of President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil, said that Iraq's stand is positive and shows understanding for Lebanon's stand and for the steps taken by President al-Jumayyil.

Following the meeting with the Iraqi president, Minister Hamiyyah held a telephone conversation with President al-Jumayyil and briefed him on the atmosphere of the meeting.

Iraqi President Expresses Understanding

NC210912 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 21 May 83

[Excerpt] We will begin our news summary with a dispatch from our team accomapnying Minister Hamiyyah on his visit to Iraq:

[Begin recording] This is the Voice of Lebanon mission which is again with you from Baghdad. President Amin al-Jumayyil's envoy Minister 'Adil Hamiyyah has handed the Lebanese president's message to Iraqi President Saddam Husayn. The meeting ended a short while ago. It lasted from 0800 to 0900 Beirut time, 1000 to 1100 Baghdad summer time. The Voice of Lebanon mission has learned that the meeting was very positive and encouraging. The Iraqi president showed understanding for the Lebanese situation. He asked about certain points. Colleague Joseph as-Sayfi will report on Minister Hamiyyah's statement following the meeting: In fact, the atmosphere was very positive. Informed sources in the Lebanese delegation said that the delegation felt that President Husayn loves Lebanon and is very interested in its issues. The delegation felt that President Husayn is very well informed about the details of the agreement as well as about the situation and developments in Lebanon.

These sources said that President Husayn asked about certain points in the agreement and that presidential envoy Minister Hamiyyah and Staff Colonel Munir Ruhaym explained them. The picture is now quite clear to the president. These sources further said that President Husayn showed understanding for the Lebanese situation and wished that all the Arab countries were in a better situation and not divided, so they could enable Lebanon to liberate its territory without an agreement. Husayn stressed his respect for Lebanon and the Lebanese will [iradah]. [end recording]

Envoy Affirms Iraqi Support

NC211230 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 21 May 83

[Text] Finance Minister 'Adil Hamiyyah, envoy of the president of the republic, met with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, who expressed Iraq's support for the Lebanese stand on the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon. Following the meeting, Minister Hamiyyah said:

[Begin recording] This morning, we had the honor of meeting His Excellency Iraqi President Saddam Husayn. We conveyed to his excellency and to the Iraqi Government and people greetings from Lebanon — from its president, government, and people. We also conveyed to his excellency an oral message from His Excellency President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil on the recent developments, especially concerning the Lebanese-Israeli agreement. The meeting was held in a brotherly atmosphere and was imbued with full understanding for the whole course of events in Lebanon and the region. We felt that his excellency [words inditinct] in giving full support for Lebanon and President al-Jumayyil, for the liberation of all Lebanon from occupation, and for the restoration of its full national sovereignty on all its territory. [end recording]

Hamiyyah Returns 23 May

NC230708 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 23 May 83

[Text] President al-Jumayyil's envoy Minister 'Adil Hamiyyah, accompanied by Staff Colonel Munir Ruhayyim, has concluded his Arab tour and returned to Beirut at dawn today from Aden. He had met with PDRY Deputy Chairman 'Ali Antar because he could not obtain an appointment to meet with Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad al-Hasani.

'Ali Antar told minister Hamiyyah that his country sympathizes with Lebanon and supports its integrity and independence. Minister Hamiyyah delivered messages to YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih in San'a' and to Iraqi President Saddam Husayn.

Briefs Al-Jumayyil

NC231207 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 23 May 83

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil was briefed by Finance Minister 'Adil Hamiyyah this morning on the results of his tour to Iraq, the YAR, and the PDRY, and their officials' stances on the Lebanese efforts to liberate Lebanon and restore its full sovereignty, and particularly on the Lebanese-Israeli agreement.

Minister Hamiyyah described the outcome of his tour as positive and useful. He said the Arab officials with whom he met expressed every understanding of the Lebanese stand and supported the steps for the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon.

Soviet Experts Inspect Syrian Positions

NC201316 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 20 May 83

[Text] According to security information received by the Voice of Lebanon, Soviet experts accompanied by Syrian officers have in the past few days inspected the Al-Batrun area and the positions occupied by the Syrian Army in Tula, Dirya, (Qisan), and 'Ibrin with a view to learning the nature of the terrain there, in order to set up new weapons in line with what happened in the Al-Matn area in past weeks.

According to this information, the socialist-leftist gunmen have recently received various types of weapons from the Syrians and the Palestinians. These weapons include 120-mm and 80-mm mortars, 14-mm antiaircraft guns, rocket launchers, and troop carriers, as well as a large quantity of handgrenades and ammunition. This was accompanied by the arrival of Palestinian officers in the upper Al-Matn area, particularly in Falugha, Hammana, and Qirnayil to train the socialist-leftist gunmen on the use of the new weapons.

It has been noticed that socialist gunmen have been seizing houses and evicting the residents in some areas of Al-Biqa' and Al-Matn. Meanwhile, socialist gunmen imposed compulsory

conscription on Druze residents of Beirut after threatening them with murder if they refused.

According to the information, during recent meetings between leftist-communist parties and a number of Syrian officials, the former received the green light to begin acts of sabotage in greater Beirut following the unanimity manifested on the question of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement. Within this framework, the so-called the Arab army of Lebanon has begun training exercises in the (Dahr Ansar) camp under the man responsible for the camp, Lieutenant Ahmad Talib, from Tikrit.

In Al-Biqa', within the framework of terrorization, the Syrian forces have prevented the citizens from irrigating their crops in an attempt to harm the Lebanese economy.

Syrians Install SAM-2's, Tanks in Al-Biqa'
NC221242 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 22 May 83

[Text] Over the past few hours, the Syrian forces have set up SAM-2 bases [qawa' d li sawarikh sam ithnayn] in the Shmistar area in the Al-Biqa' valley. They have also introduced into the area a number of advanced Soviet T-72 tanks.

Al-Wazzan Calls for Restraint in Mountain
NC221234 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 22 May 83

[Excerpts] All efforts are now being devoted to tackling the kidnapping incidents which were resumed in the mountain area today amid the erection of several armed roadblocks on various roads, especially on the Zahlah-Tarshish road and Dahr al-Baydar-Hammana road. This was accompanied by rumors which have increased the tension in the area. Security quarters are trying to verify these rumors, since no clear and precise reports have been received about the murdering of some kidnapped persons from Dardurit township.

Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan has expressed his denunciation and regret over the resumption of kidnappings and counter-kidnappings at a time when contacts and preparations are going on at more than one level to restore normal life. He called on all the parties to shoulder their responsibilities, control their nerves, refrain from falling into traps, and prevent the deterioration of the situation at a time when the country is facing difficult circumstances which demand the rallying of all efforts to end the crisis.

VOL on Syrian-Fatah Clash, 'Arafat Visit
NC210738 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 21 May 83

[Text] The situation in Al-Biqa' is raising concern in light of daily reports on military preparations by the Syrian and Israeli sides. In the meantime, Israeli military aircraft continue their reconnaisance sorties over Al-Biqa' and the mountains. In addition, there is unusual movement of military helicopters, which are transporting equipment and ammunition to the front.

In addition to this, there is dissension in Al-Biqa' threatening the PLO. Yasir 'Arafat is trying to avert divisions by his recurrent visits to Al-Biqa'. 'Arafat, so far, has succeeded in preventing a large-scale military confrontation. Latest reports, however, say that the PLO's artillery commander Wasif 'Urayqat announced that some of his troops stationed in Syria are moving to Lebanon to join PLO dissidents. He said: We issued strict orders to our fighters not to resort to bloodshed, but if fighting is imposed on us, we will defend ourselves.

The Voice of Lebanon has received reports that Yasir 'Arafat inspected the Al-Biqa' area yesterday and held a meeting in Ta'nayl with Abu Dhibian from the Security 17 [PLO security organization] and Salih Muslih, the Palestinian military official in charge in Al-Biqa'. During the 4-hour meeting, 'Arafat discussed with them the status of the dissident movement led by Abu Musa and Abu Nidal.

These reports also say that Syrian special forces exchanged fire yesterday evening with Palestinian forces belonging to Fatah on the Dayr Ta'nayl crossroads. Additional Syrian forces intervened, forcing the Palestinians to withdraw after sustaining casualties.

'Arafat Reported in North
NC221040 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 22 May 83

[Text] Yasir 'Arafat arrived in northern Lebanon this morning. He set out immediately for the Al-Baddawi and Al-Barid [Palestinian refugee] camps where he held a series of meetings with a number of Palestinian leaders.

Security sources said that 'Arafat entered northern Lebanon via the Syrian coastal road. He was escorted by two Range-Rover cars.

It should be recalled here that the Fatah organization has placed the mutinous officers within its ranks under the direct command of 'Arafat and has prevented all Palestinian fighters from contacting them.

VOL Reports Libyans, Cubans Arrive in Al-Biqa'
NC221333 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 22 May 83

[Text] The Sons of the Al-Biqa' association has called on the area's inhabitants not to move between Beirut and the Al-Biqa' because of the existence of kidnapping roadblocks on the Dahr al-Baydar-Hammana Road and the Zahlah-Tarshish Road. The association said 15 Al-Biqa' inhabitants have been kidnapped and that contacts are under way to know their fate.

In a statement issued today, the association referred to the recent, stepped-up military reinforcements' which portend great danger. The statement disclosed that a Libyan missile unit, as well as about 30 Cuban experts, arrived in the Al-Biqa' via Al-Masna'

last night.

Report on Ash-Shuf Situation 22 May
NC221836 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 22 May 83

[Excerpt] At 1600 today, limited clashes occurred on the (Wadi ibn Hlayy)-Sirjbal-Kafr Him-Mdamit axis and no reports on the cessation of these clashes have been received up to now.

The intensity of tension in the mountain area heightened today following an increase in kidnapping and counterkidnapping incidents in the Ash-Shuf area. These incidents began last Saturday evening. Tension heightened because a number of bodies of kidnapped persons were found, particularly in the townships of Kafr Him and Dardurit. A security source has stated that the Israeli forces transported nine bodies from Kafr Him to the Palace of Prince Amin in Bayt Ad-Din this afternoon. There was a rumor that 14 bodies were found in Dardurit. Four of the kidnapped persons who were killed have been identified. They are: 'Abduh As'ad As'ad, Sami Yusuf and his son Marun Yusuf, and Mansur Hanna.

Contacts are continuing to contain these regrettable incidents, and to prevent them from extending to the nearby villages. Security sources have said the efforts being exerted might yield positive results this evening, although these sources admit that the situation is grave.

While President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil and Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan were holding concerted contacts to deal with the situation, other leaderships were moving to halt the aggravation of the security situation. Phalangist Party leaders and Joseph al-Hashim, Phalangist Party leader in the Ash-Shuf region, held numerous contacts in this respect. Former Minister Marwan Hamadah also participated in these contacts. Hamadah returned from Damascus this morning, after having met with Walid Junblatt, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party.

Lebanese, Syrian CP's Attack Agreement
NC230854 Beirut Al-Bayraq in Arabic 21 May 83 p 4

[Text] The Lebanese and Syrian Communist Parties declared that Syria's firm rejection of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement stems from the interest of the Syrian and Lebanese peoples in sovereignty and independence, their interests in their direct security, and their interest in their historical relations.

A statement issued after a meeting yesterday between Lebanese Communist Party Secretary General George Hawi and a Syrian Communist Party delegation led by its Secretary General Khalid Bakdash said that this agreement undermines Lebanon's sovereignty, renders its security open to blackmail by Israel and Washington, and threatens Syria's security.

'Abd al-Halim Khaddam's Monte Carlo Interview
JN202012 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1735 GMT 20 May 83

[Interview with Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam by Radio Monte Carlo correspondent in Damascus Louis Faris broadcast within the weekly program "It Happened Tomorrow"; date not given — recorded]

[Text] [Question] Your Excellency Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, what are the most important reasons for Syria's rejection of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement?

[Answer] The Lebanese officials have on various occasions announced that there are red lines they will not go beyond. Among the most important of these lines is Lebanon's sovereignty. Where does Lebanon's sovereignty stand in this agreement? Is the imposition of a group of persons cooperating with Israel in southern Lebanon, by giving this group legitimacy and making it a part of the Lebanese Army, in tune with the talk about Lebanese sovereignty? Is stripping an important part of Lebanon and placing it under the joint Lebanese-Israeli administration in harmony with Lebanon's sovereignty? Moreover, the Lebanese side in this administration is dictated by Israel and it includes persons from the Sa'd Haddad group, the villages guards [as heard], and others cooperating with Israel.

Is preventing Lebanon from possessing advanced air defense methods in harmony with the sovereignty of the Lebanese state? Is preventing the Lebanese state from placing military forces in the Al-Baruk area in line with the sovereignty of this state? If Lebanon wants to receive help from an international force to strengthen the state's authority in any part of Lebanon, then this [agreement] demands that the Lebanese state consult with Israel and dictates that the member-states of such a force must have relations with Israel. Is this considered harmonious with the sovereignty of the Lebanese state? Is imposing restrictions on the movementsof flights and navigation in Lebanon considered part of the sovereignty of the Lebanese state? You may ask: What are these restrictions? These restrictions stipulate that Lebanon does not have the right to allow military equipment to pass through its territory or air space if this equipment belongs to a state hostile to Israel or one that does not have diplomatic relations with Israel.

Israel has objectives in Lebanon. It has military, security, political, and economic objectives in Lebanon. Israel has accomplished all of these objectives. It accomplished the security and military objectives through establishing what was called the security zone and the restrictions imposed on the Lebanese state. These restrictions are found in the agreement, its annex, its addenda, and the explanatory minutes.

In addition, normalizing relations between Lebanon and the Israeli enemy will enable the enemy to establish several institutions, under Lebanese facades, working in favor of Israeli security. The main role of these institutions will be not only to sabotage Lebanon, but to undermine security and stability in the entire Arab world and most of all in Syria.

So Israel has accomplished its military and security objectives through this agreement. The political objective has also been accomplished through its success in having its allies, actually I would not say allies because Israel has no allies, but some of those dealing with it in Lebanon occupy some basic and sensitive positions in the army, security force, and other state organizations. They are proxies for Israel. They are, actually, the makers of essential decisions in Lebanon.

We have as examples the Sabra and Shatila massacres. The massacres were the result of an Israeli decision. They committed the massacres in cooperation with the Israeli occupation forces. What has the Lebanese state done to these people? They are now occupying important positions and contribute to Lebanese decisionmaking. Israel, therefore, has realized a political aim; namely, to place some of its agents in positions where they can contribute to Lebanese decisionmaking. Undoubtedly, these agents play a basic political role in Lebanon. This is the political aim within the framework of Lebanon. The other aim, which Israel has realized within the Arab framework, is through the ninth article in the agreement. This article stipulates the following:

The first paragraph says: Within a period not exceeding 1 year from the moment this agreement becomes effective, each party will take all the necessary measures to abrogate all the agreements, rules, and statutes that are opposed to this agreement in accordance with the constitutional principles of each party.

The second paragraph says: The two parties will pledge not to carry out any commitments that are opposed to this agreement and not to enter into any commitment or adopt rules and regulations that are opposed to this agreement.

The ninth article cut off all the Lebanese commitments and ties to the Arab world. What will become of the Collective Arab Defense Agreement? What will be the effect of this article on the Arab League Charter? What will happen to all the bilateral agreements between Lebanon and the Arab states? Any Lebanese commitment that goes against this agreement is now considered null and void according to this agreement. Therefore, Israel was able to realize a basic political aim through laying the basis for a separation between Lebanon and the Arab world.

Regardless of statements by certain suspect Lebanese persons that their relations with the Arab world will continue, these relations will be a bridge for the Israelis. What will be the value of these relations if the Lebanese commitments to Israel surpass Lebanon's Arab commitments? Israel has realized its political aim by its invasion of Lebanon.

There is also the third aim, which is the economic aim. If we go back to the agreements, we find in various articles that borders will be open between Lebanon and Israel and the movement of goods, persons, and products will be in full swing. The relations between Israel and Lebanon will be developed, as is obviously shown in a number of paragraphs in the agreement, particularly in the eighth and other articles that open the way for normalizing relations between Lebanon and the Israeli enemy. All the paragraphs in the eighth article prove this. Article (?B) stipulates that the joint liasion committee will be continuously concerned with

developing mutual relations between Lebanon and Israel, including the control of the movement of goods, products, persons, and transport. The last clause of paragraph C stipulates that within the framework of the joint liaison committee, there will be negotiations conducted in good will with the aim of reaching agreement on the movement of goods, products, and persons, and implementing this agreement without any discrimination. This means that any preferences given by Lebanon to any Arab state in matters of economic and trade relations will be transferred to Israel.

Therefore, Israel, through this agreement, succeeded in achieving economic objectives, which in turn will make Lebanon a bridgehead for marketing its products and goods in the Arab homeland, particularly since the Egyptians set up a barrier in the face of the normalization of relations and against marketing Israeli products in Egypt. Israel will turn Lebanon into a base for marketing its goods and products in all the Arab countries. Furthermore, Israel [words indistinct]. The Lebanese economy consists of three factors:

1. Agriculture: We all know that Israeli agricultural products constitute an important competitive factor in Lebanon with regard to Lebanese agricultural products.

2. Industrial products: We also know that the Israeli industrial development has made strides far beyond the industrial development in Lebanon. Furthermore, Israeli industrial products will be a keen competitor of Lebanese industrial products and this will, consequently, harm Lebanese products.

3. The services factor — The tourism and banking services. The Israeli enemy, with all its capabilities, will also wipe out this basic factor in the Lebanese economy. Consequently, by virtue of this agreement, Lebanon will [word indistinct] to the Israeli economy, and the Israelis will benefit from [words indistinct] and the Lebanese economy will bear all the disadvantges inherent in the Israeli economy.

As for the fourth objective of the Israeli (?aggression), the Israeli enemy is planning to Zionize Lebanon; to change the Lebanese way of thinking and change the ideological and cultural base in Lebanon in order to make Lebanon a staging base for the Zionists to Zionize the Arab world. The agreement, with all its various clauses, will enable the Israeli enemy to realize this objective.

If we go back to Article 4, we find that this article says: The territory of either side shall not be used as a base for any terrorirst or hostile acts against the other side or against its people. The word hostile means that any article in a newspaper, or any lecture, or any book that exposes or attacks Israel will be taken as a hostile activity, and consequently, the Lebanese Government will have to quell this activity.

The second paragraph of the same article is a long one, but I would like to refer to some clauses that say that every activity that threatens the security of either side or the safety of its entity must be prohibited. This means that any anti-Israeli demonstration that might be staged in Lebanon, or any political organization against Israel must be quelled. The same paragraph says: Each side shall prevent the setting up of nonregular forces, armed gangs, organizations, bases, offices, or bodies whose objectives are raiding the territory of the other side or carrying out any sabotage act inside the territory, or any activity threatening the security and so forth. Therefore, even the political parties in Lebanon that are hostile to Israel will be banned, consequently, these suppressive measures against Israel will enable it to carry out cultural activities toward Zionizing Lebanon and imposing the normalization of relations on the Lebanese citizen on the political, economic, and security levels.

In addition to this, paragraph 3 of Article 4 says: Both parties will desist from carrying out, urging, helping to carry out, or taking part in threats, acts of war, acts of sabotage, or hostile acts against the other party or against its population and properties etc., and hence, any act of instigation against the Israeli enemy such as newspaper articles, party statements, cultural leaflets, and school textbooks and the various publications which expose the Israeli enemy will fall under this category. Therefore, Israel has prevented all anti-Israeli trends and allowed all pro-Israeli trends. Israel has realized its aims through this aggression. Therefore, we have rejected this agreement.

As I pointed out a short while ago, for Lebanese considerations, our rejection stems from the fact that we have stood and will always stand by our people in Lebanon who endeavor to live in an independent, free, and sovereign state. This agreement has violated Lebanese sovereignty. From the Arab viewpoint, we rejected the agreement because it will lead to Zionizing Lebanon and severing Lebanese connections with the Arab world. For Syrian reasons, we rejected the agreement because through the advantages it has given Israel in the security, political, and economic fields, the agreement directly threatens Syria's security, peace, and future and those of the entire Arab world. We are called on to confront this agreement and to work to abort and obstruct it for Lebanese, Arab, and Syrian reasons.

[Question] The agreement has been signed. They say the ratification [al-ibram] will take place following talks with Syria. How is that? What does it mean?

[Answer] What will they talk with Syria about? Will they talk with Syria to convince it that Lebanon must be transformed into an Israeli protectorate or to convince it that the doors must be open for Israel to pounce on Syria? In view of this agreement, we find nothing to talk about. The only thing we can talk about is saving Lebanon and preserving its sovereignty, dignity, and security; and saving the Arab nation's security and preventing the implementation of this agreement. Only within this framework can we talk. To discuss whether we accept Lebanon being transformed into a security base for Israel and accept the Israelis reaching our borders with Lebanon is unacceptable. I do not believe that any fair-minded person can discuss this with Syria.

[Question] The U.S. side is adamantly reiterating that Syria will change its position after a few weeks. What do you say to that?

[Answer] When As-Sadat visited Jerusalem and signed the two Camp David agreements and the treaty of peace, the Americans said that Syria would change its position. It was proved that Syria was fighting for a cause, had a firm policy, and planned its policy

on these bases. Weeks, days, and years will not change Syria's position on this situation if no deep-rooted changes take place. If the Israeli gains are not dropped, there will be no change in Syria's position.

[Question] Will Syria take measures against the Lebanese regime? If the answer is positive, then when and what will these measures be?

[Answer] Syria is discussing all aspects of this situation. There is no doubt that Syria is compelled to discuss and take the appropriate measures to ensure its security and that of the Lebanese people. But what are these measures and when will they be taken. When they are taken, they will not be secret. They will be made public.

[Question] Mr Minister, is it true that Syria is behind the formation of the front opposing the agreement, which is led by former President Sulayman Franjiyah?

[Answer] The nationalist alliance announced in Zgharta is made up of nationalist leaders and powers. These leaders are known for their long history, national stands, and struggle for Lebanon and the Arabs. Everyone knows who Sulayman Franjiyah, Rashid Karami, Walid Junblatt, and others with them are. They do not need to be told what to do. They are leaders and nationalists. They are aware of Lebanon's interest because every nationalist Lebanese knows this. This is a Lebanese nationalist initiative. I would also like to say that all the Arab nationalists, not only in Syria, but also in the entire Arab world and Lebanon, stand alongside every single Lebanese nationalist facing, resisting, and opposing the agreement. We believe that the nationalist alliance will be extended and will include all the factions and powers of the Lebanese people because no one believes that our citizens in Lebanon will accept the shackles imposed on them by this agreement.

[Question] With your permission, Mr Minister, let us talk about U.S. envoy Philip Habib. You have announced that you refuse to receive him. Does this mean ending the dialogue with Washington?

[Answer] We will not receive Philip Habib, because there is nothing to discuss with him. This is our stand [words indistinct].

[Question] At the beginning of last year you told me in this office that after its annexation of the Golan, Israel would work to annex southern Lebanon and then the West Bank. Is this opinion still valid today?

[Answer] When I said that a year ago I was not predicting. I was only seeing the events by reading through the Israeli enemy's strategy and objectives. This is indeed what has happened. Can anyone now say that southern Lebanon is under the control of the Lebanese state? As for the West Bank, I need not repeat what the Israelis announce every day on this subject. However, we need to say here that what is happening is a link in the chain of the long struggle between us and the Zionists, between us and the Israeli enemy. We are confident and self-assured that the future of this struggle will be settled in favor of the Arab nation, regardless of the clouds, obstacles, and negative aspects and signs that we see nowadays. We are certain, however, that this struggle will be settled in the favor of our nation.

[Question] Mr Minister, much is being reiterated about the Soviet Union and Syria, and about Syria and the Soviet Union. The question is: What is the Soviet Union's position these days and how are Soviet-Syrian relations?

[Answer] The Soviet Union adopts stands in support of Syria. [Words indistinct]. For many years, the Soviet Union has adopted a clear line in backing the Arabs and supporting their struggle for the restoration of their rights. All this makes it necessary for us to search for the best means to establish the best relations with this friendly state that is standing by our side.

The Soviet Union is a friendly state that stands by our side. It helps and backs us. Therefore, it is quite natural that this be reflected in our relations and that our people harbor great appreciation for this friendly state.

[Question] This is my last question. It concerns Syrian-Palestinian relations. How are these relations now, particularly following the meeting between President Hafiz al-Asad and Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat]?

[Answer] Syrian-Palestinian relations have always been good. However, Some people mistakenly spread news about some differences affecting the course of Syrian-PLO relations, and there was a time when there was some kind of misunderstanding between Syria and some PLO leaders.

Since the PNC adopted clear-cut and specific resolutions consistent with Syria's political line, the atmosphere between us and those who pursued a course incompatible with our political line has been heading toward normalcy. Because we do not differ with individuals [words indistinct]. Our relations with anyone, whether he is a Palestinian, an Arab, or a foreigner are usually defined in light of our policy and strategy. Therefore, I assert that our relations with the PLO are good. The PLO is well aware that Syria has a basic commitment to the Palestinian question. What creates problems between Syria and many people is that Syria is more Palestinian than some of those who try to cast doubt on Syria's position, although they know Syria's commitment toward the Palestinian question does not stem from a tactical or phased political position, but from historical relations and from Syria's pan-Arab commitment toward the struggle for the sake of Palestine and all the basic Arab issues.

[Question] How do you see future Syrian-Lebanese relations?

[Answer] This depends on the course of the Lebanese regime. Future relations will depend on this course.

[Interviewer] Thank you Your Excellency.

Al-Mustaqbal Interview

JN211632 Damascus Domestic Service In Arabic 1520 GMT 21 May 83

[Text] Paris —'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has affirmed that every provision of Lebanon's agreement with the Zionist enemy contains a restriction on Lebanon's freedom and independence and a big stab in the back to Arab security and interests, as well as to Lebanon's future within the Arab world.

In an interview with colleague Marwan al-Mahayini, the Damascus correspondent of *Al-Mustaqbal* magazine, published today, Khaddam said: We tried to persuade the Lebanese Government not to get involved in the negotiations.

Khaddam related what President Hafiz al-Asad told President Amin al-Jumayyil's envoy, Jean 'Ubayd, during his first visit to Damascus. The president said: If you want to consult with us, then we ask you not to proceed with these negotiations, because the entire world now stands on the side of Lebanon. Moreover, all the UN Security Council members are committed to stand on the side of Lebanon. When you go to the negotiating table, you will present your demands, which will be the minimum national demands, and the enemy will present its maximum demands. The world will then say: Let us await the outcome of these negotiations. Consequently, world support for Lebanon will recede. The world will be less enthusiastic in its support. Moreover, international circles will say: Lebanon must make some concessions. The United States will put greater pressure on Lebanon during these negoitations and it will make these concessions.

In his interview with *Al-Mustaqbal*, Khaddam said: We have advised Beirut several times, telling it: Israel occupied southern Lebanon in 1978. Yet it withdrew without making any gains. Therefore, do not make the mistake of getting involved in the negotiation process. If Washington is indeed serious about achieving an Israeli withdrawal, it can achieve this withdrawal without you sitting at the negotiation table and making concessions to the Israeli enemy.

Khaddam continued: This picture was clear to us, and we explained it to our brothers in Lebanon. Right from the start, we told them that any gain achieved by Israel through these negotiations will be rejected by Syria. We also told them that Syria will give support and assistance to all those Lebanese who resist Israeli gains in Lebanon.

Khaddam was asked: What is the position now that the agreement had been signed? He replied: We will take all measures to help the Lebanese nationalist forces opposed to this agreement, which has been imposed on Lebanon. We will also adopt general measures [ijra'at shamilah] to protect Syrian security and economy and the Arab world.

Khaddam said that the current Arab situation is suffering from a sickness; it is in a state of decline manifested by the indifference of certain Arab states toward certain major issues that threaten the Arab homeland. He pointed out that tackling this state of decline calls for greater efforts and time, because what we are suffering from now is the result of the accumulation of negative points in inter-Arab relations in which outside forces played a major role.

Continuing, Khaddam said: When Ronald Reagan took office as President of the United States, former Assistant Secretary of State Joseph Sisco, who was then in Damascus, told me that the new U.S. Administration would break the back [stagqsim dhahr] of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Khaddam added: In order for this Administration to break the back of the Arab-Israeli conflict, it must first break the back of the Arabs. He said: Various U.S. Administrations followed the policy of dismembering the Arabs and of driving wedges among them, because Washington knows well that if the Arabs succeed in unifying their positions and concerting their ranks, it would naturally be in the Arab nation's interests and against the Israeli enemy and the covetous imperialist designs.

In response to a question about the possibility of an outbreak of hostilities, Khaddam said: Israel is massing troops and is taking some practical steps. In return, we took the appropriate measures. I do not want to go into detail on this topic, but briefly, I would like to say: If we come under attack, we will firmly confront it. I do not believe the Israelis expect that their aggression would be a picnic this time.

Khaddam, in his interview, asserted that the Israelis are aware of the grave losses that would be sustained by both them and us should they commit any aggression.

Responding to another question, the deputy prime minister and foreign minister said: During President Hafiz al-Asad's recent visit to Saudi Arabia, we sensed that our brothers in Saudi Arabia entertain the same views with regard to the grave dangers inherent in most of the provisions of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement. He added: We agreed with them to continue working to fend off all the dangers threatening us. Our contacts with our Saudi brothers will continue for the sake of facing the new status quo in the region resulting from this agreement in Lebanon.

Khaddam touched on the statements made by some Lebanese officials with regard to Israeli and U.S. pressures that were brought to bear on Lebanon during the stage of negotiations to make it accept Israel's conditions. He said: It is unfair to call that which was signed by the Lebanese regime with the Israeli enemy an agreement, because an agreement is usually signed between equal sides and not between two sides, one of whom is spreading its occupation on the other's land, committing crimes, and practicing atrocities.

Khaddam pointed out that this agreement is bound to consolidate the imbalance in the internal formula of Lebanon. We now see the Lebanese forces militas practicing terrorism in Beirut and in some Lebanese areas, thus menacing Lebanon's unity, independence and stability. The state of suppression the Lebanese nationalists in general, and the Muslims in particular, are experiencing will be a permanent source of instability in Lebanon.

Information Minister on Lebanese Agreement
JN211810 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 21 May 83

[Text] Beirut — Information Minister Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad said that the Israeli-Lebanese agreement of submission cancels the current Lebanese laws and all Lebanese commitments that are opposed to the provisions of this agreement. In an interview with the Lebanese newspaper *Ash-Shira'*, the minister pointed out that we are still hoping that the Lebanese Government will take into consideration the great harm this agreement will do to Lebanese security, independence,and sovereignty. Ahmad added: This agreement, which is being depicted as an agreement of withdrawal, is not such. In all Syrian media, we published the provisions of this agreement, which was given to us by Lebanon's Foreign Minister Elie Salim.

The minister also said: We have important and essential observations on this agreement. Before enumerating these observations, I would like to recall that President Amin al-Jumayyil told the delegation of the Lebanese Press Association — a statement which was read by the Lebanese foreign minister in the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies when he spoke about Israeli terms for the withdrawal. The Lebanese minister enumerated nine points that he said would strip Lebanon of its sovereignty and independence and leave it without dignity. When we read the draft agreement, we found that it was as described by the Lebanese foreign minister in the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies: It strips Lebanon of its sovereignty and independence. It transforms it into an Israeli protectorate, and renders the Lebanese Government politically paralyzed.

The information minister said: We expressed to Lebanese Foreign Minister Elie Salim our views on the provisions of the agreement after studying these provisions carefully and profoundly. Our essential and preliminary observation is that this agreement suspends current Lebanese laws and has constitutional authority, and every former Lebanese commitment conflicting with the provisions of this agreement should be canceled within 1 year. Lebanon also is not allowed to enact a law or issue a judgement on a legal question, which, according to Israel's interpretation and belief, conflicts with the draft agreement. Such an affair will strip Lebanon of its political power and independence, which all parties should safeguard.

The information minister said: We have another point: The agreement considers all states, particularly the Arab states, which have no diplomatic relations with Israel, as hostile states. It also imposed conditions on Lebanon's movements and freedom in dealing with these states. It is no secret that the main target of this article is Syria. How can we accept the logic that Israel should become a friendly state to Lebanon while Syria becomes a hostile state to it?

Ahmad also affirmed that the agreement compels the Lebanese Government to grant privileges in regard to its previous decisions against Sa'd Haddad, Al-Ansar militias, and those Israel set up in southern Lebanon and called the national guards. The agreement also prevents Lebanese official information from making any reference considered by Israel as an offense against it. We do not know whether Israel's control over Lebanon will be restricted to official information or go beyond that to control the Lebanese cultural information as a whole. He also pointed out that the agreement grants a pardon to Israel for all its crimes in Lebanon. Lebanon has paid a price for the Israeli invasion with victims and great material losses during the invasion. Now they want Lebanon — popular and official — to pay for the Israeli withdrawal.

The information minister also asserted that all these issues, as well as other issues in the agreement, have made Syria reject this agreement in form and substance and consider it harmful to Lebanon and damaging to Syrian security and national interest. This is because of the existing special historical relations between the twin peoples in the two countries. It also harms pan-Arab security and violates commitments undertaken by Lebanon under the charters of the Arab League. There is a clear provision that this agreement is the original and that all other issues conflicting with it should be canceled within 1 year.

The minister also spoke about the alternatives. He said: there were alternatives which still exist. The invaders do not record the history of peoples, but the strugglers record this history. In order to defeat the invaders, there should be a firm national will in resisting and defending the homeland and its freedom and self-determination.

The minister said: Our brothers in Lebanon have asked for help and we extended it. There have been alternatives and these alternatives still exist. We should help Lebanon resist the terms of this agreement so that Lebanon, which we knew and loved, will not be a base or crossroad for imperialism.

He also touched on the U.S. role, asserting that the United States has not been a witness, but a partner in the Israeli invasion. It provided Israel with the most sophisticated U.S. weapons. It also strengthened Israel's attitude in international circles. He also explained that Syria holds contacts with the Arabs and con tinues these contacts on all levels to prevent Israeli invading forces from achieving gains, because these forces should pay the price for the losses suffered by Lebanon. He asserted that Syria will resist U.S. attempts to impose hegemony, and Israeli arrogance, by relying on its intrinsic power and assistance by our brothers and friends in the world, particularly the Soviet Union, to which we are tied with strategic friendship. He also asseted that if Israel launches an agression against Syria, the affair will not be a picnic and Syria will fight as it did to defend itself and the pan-Arab security.

SANA: Ahmad Arrives in Kuwait With Message
JN220912 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0710 GMT 22 May 83

[Text] Kuwait, 22 May (SANA) — Information Minister Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad arrived in Kuwait at 2030 last night from Saudi Arabia.

In a statement upon arrival, the minister noted that he is carrying a written message from President Hafiz al-Asad to Kuwaiti Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah dealing with the current Arab state of affairs, the fundamental harm done to Lebanon, the Arab nation's interests, and Syrian security and national interests as a

result of the Lebanese negotiator signing the agreement imposed by the United States and Israel.

On his visit to Saudi Arabia, the minister said: I delivered a message to King Fahd on the same subject.

He added that King Fahd fully understands the Syrian point of view and is aware of the circumstances through which Syria is passing in the confronting the U.S. imperialist-Zionist design in the Arab region, particularly in Lebanon.

On his assessment of the situation in Al-Biqa', the information minister said: Israel has for some time been directly threatening Syria and the rest of the Arabs, and the U.S. Administration, from time to time, repeats these threats. He asserted that any attempt at aggression against the Syrian forces in any of their locations will be faced with firmness and strong determination, as well as with a defense capability that will make the invaders pay very dearly.

On what is being repeated about Syria being subjected to pressures from various sides, Iskandar Ahmad said that the Syrian position is an Arab position and abides by the resolutions of the Arab summit conferences, which underlines the unity of the cause and the impermissibility of dividing this cause and dealing with it separately.

He said: If abiding by the pan-Arab position and the resolutions of the Arab summit conferences is considered intransigence, then Syria is very proud of being intransigent in its principles, its defense of the Syrian national security, and the pan-Arab security.

He stressed: We are against invasion and invaders and against those backing and encouraging them with all means of support and encouragement. In other words, we are against the Israeli invaders who are expressing their policies in a racist and expansionist manner, [and those who support them], with the most modern means, and make up their economic losses by the aggres sions they carry out in this or that part of the Arab homeland.

He added that we are against the Israeli invaders and their U.S. protectors. We are against them simply because we support our national interests and the supreme pan-Arab interests.

KUNA: Syria To Release Political Prisoners

LD230904 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0815 GMT 23 May 83

[Excerpt] 23 May (KUNA) — The Kuwaiti paper *Al-Watan* has stated that in the next 48 hours, Syria is going to release a number of political personalities arrested in 1970 when President Hafiz al-Asad assumed power.

In an unattributed report from Amman, the paper states that the most eminent people to be released are former President Nur ad-Din al-Atasi, former Prime Minister Yusuf az-Zu'ayyin, and the former deputy secretary general of the Ba'th Party, Salah Jadid.

It adds that among the personalities to be released are two persons having Jordanian nationality and former members of the National Command of the Ba'th Party in Syria: Dafi' Jumay'an and Akif al-Fayiz.

Israeli Reinforcements in Al-Biqa' Reported

JN221025 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1015 GMT 22 May 83

[Text] Zionist military reinforcements are continuing in Al-Biqa'. The occupation forces have brought in scores of tanks and personnel carriers to the combat axes on the front. These forces established new forward positions on the contact lines with the Syrian forces.

Press Comments on Habib's Tour of Region

JN221032 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 22 May 83

[Press review]

[Text] *Al-Ba'th* says: If Philip Habib, during his 1 year semipermanent residence between Beirut and occupied Jerusalem, has succeeded in patronizing the Zionist aggression against Lebanon and reaping some of its fruits through the signing of the Israeli-Lebanese agreement, then as an envoy and U.S. representative in the Middle East, he must realize that what he has achieved with the Beirut government will never happen with Syria — even if he resides for tens of years in this region.

More likely, Habib is aware of this more than anyone else, because the doors were deliberately left wide open for him in Beirut by an authority that has linked its destiny and existence to the U.S. bandwagon and interests. This authority was fully aware that the price for revolving in the Washington orbit would be transforming Lebanon into a U.S. or Israeli protectorate and relinquishing any national affiliation and relationship — which in the first place should take the Lebanese people's interests, objectives, and aspirations into consideration, and not the interests, designs, and objectives of the enemy of the Lebanese people.

Al-Ba'th adds: In other words, Habib, or rather the United States, tried to ignore the fact that Damascus is not Beirut or Cairo. We are saying this with regret and indignation, because due to agent and capitulatory regimes, Arab capitals have become symbols of Arab humiliation and deterioration. As history has proven, Syria will remain the Arab reality that constantly reflects the Arab masses' genuineness and nobleness, and which embodies the Arab masses' aspirations and objectives in all areas in which they exist. Syria cannot but be the last safe refuge for these masses to prevent the darkness of the U.S. conspiracy from casting a shroud over them. While its capitulatory course is progressing in most of the Arab capitals, The United States thinks that it can terrorize Syria; to frighten and force it to accept what the others have accepted. The United States also thinks that its friends in the region are capable of putting pressure on Syria.

Al-Ba'th concludes: Here lies the fatal mistake of the United States in all its calculations. This mistake has been repeated

frequently since the eruption of the Arab-Zionist conflict. It is a mistake for the United States to insist on ignoring the fact that Syria refuses to relinquish an inch of the Arab territory and any Arab right. Syria will not allow the plots that seek to turn the region into a U.S.-Israeli protectorate. For all this, Habib's return, his tour of the capitals concerned, and his pessimistic and optimistic statements will only revolve in a vicious circle, because Syria will be the Arab conscience that is determined to protect the Arab nation's existence, rights, and dignity.

Tishrin says: The events which followed the signing of the contract of submission proved that Syria is not isolated as some try to claim, and that the agreement that was signed not only threatens fraternal Lebanon's sovereignty, but also harms the security of Syria and the entire Arab nation. The Arab people and many Arab regimes were shocked by this agreement, which was considered more serious than Camp David. Syria's stand, which opposes the agreement, won the support of national Lebanon, the Arab nation, and the forces of freedom, justice, and peace in the world. In view of this, the talk by those Arabs involved with Camp David regarding the need to put pressure on Syria, is a prelude to launching a Zionist-U.S. aggression against this militant country for the simple reason that the entire conspiracy, with all its links, cannot be carried out without the destruction of Syria's steadfastness and confrontation.

Tishrin adds: It would have been better for those who are calling for pressure on Syria to study well the dimensions of the Syrian rejection of the first Camp David conspiracy and how Syria has firmly stood to reject any compromise in this regard. Moreover, Syria has fought the Camp David conspiracy until it has been isolated inside Egypt. The Syrian stand, which opposes the Lebanese contract of submission, proceeds from the same principles and bases with which Syria confronted As-Sadat's capitulation and prevented it from spreading in the region. How can Syria not confront the new conspiracy while the danger to contain Syria's struggle and to liquidate the entire issue threatens the fraternal Lebanese people and Syria. Syria has stressed that it will not compromise on the new agreement and that it rejects any dialogue that does not seek to foil this agreement and cancel all the Zionist gains so Lebanon can return to its family and environment, and control and injustice vanishes. In view of this, Syria has rejected receiving U.S. envoy Philip Habib.

Tishrin adds: Those who are wagering on the Syrian stand becomingmore flexible are deluded, because Syria does not compromise on the cause, especially since the matter is related to the destiny of the Arab struggle and the Arab existence. The Lebanese people are exposed to the greatest tragedies and catastrophes at the hands of the Israeli agents who, in accordance with the agreement, have become the decisionmakers in Lebanon, and who can call on enemy forces to help repress any popular and national moves that oppose control and agentry. Syria is also seriously threatened because the agreement establishes a new Israel in Lebanon. When Syrian security is threatened, then the entire Arab security is threatened, because Syria today embodies the nation's conscience and represents its advanced and steadfast fortress.

Tishrin concludes: Anyone who seeks Lebanon's welfare must cancel the conspiratorial agreement. At that time, he will obtain Syria's support and backing, and not a dialogue to carry out the capitulation. Dialogue and support, together with Lebanese steadfastness in the face of the invaders, are the only way to regain the entire homeland and establish real sovereignty over it.

Radio Commentary Explains Envoys Mission

JN221424 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 22 May 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] Comrades Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad and Faruq ash-Shar', at the instruction of leader Al-Asad, are conveying messages to the Arab leaders to acquaint them with the results of the signed agreement of treason that the United States prepared between Israel and the regime in Lebanon.

Syria is doing this because it is closest to the danger that will result from this agreement if it is really implemented. Hence, the extreme importance of acquainting the fraternal Arabs with what is happening, particularly since there are desperate attempts from various sides to peddle this treasonous agreement and, consequently, hold Syria responsible for its results.

The U.S. Administration, which officially participated in the invasion last June, wants by this agreement, to give Israel what the invasion failed to achieve. The U.S. officials' threats against Syria are explained by the tension that Syria's confrontation of the implementation of this treasonous agreement is causing the Reagan administration. Hence, the wise leadership of our country found it necessary to brief the brothers on what Reagan's administration is doing, in complete cooperation and coordination with the Zionist enemy and the isolationist sides in Lebanon, to abort the Syrian stand, which represents the conscience of the Arab nation.

It has become clear that the parties of the treasonous agreement agreed among themselves on several methods to legitimize what they had earlier agreed to in Khaldah and Al-Khalisah.

It is obvious that the following are the main objectives of these methods: First, to deal a blow to the Lebanese national forces. This is what happens because the regime has begun to use repression to silence all the opposing national forces. Second, to entrust Israel to launch a large-scale aggression against Syria. President Reagan and Secretary of State Caspar Weinberger clarified this issue when they directed a threat against Syria. In fact, statements by U.S. officials assert that the Reagan administration is determined to carry out its complete strategy in the region, relying on a number of realities, foremost of which is the pledge by some Arab states to be a tool to implement the U.S. plan.

Syria, which believes the Arab cause will achieve victory, is undertaking a large-scale Arab move to mobilize all Arab energies to confront and foil the conspiracy before it starts devouring our Arab homeland piece by piece. Syria is doing this because it believes the joint pan-Arab action is a decisive reply to the enemies of the Arab nation.

Tunisian Foreign Minister Arrives in Damascus

JN221842 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 22 May 83

[Text] Tunisian Foreign Affairs Minister Beji Caid es-Sebsi arrived in Damascus at 2000 this evening on a 4-day official visit to the country. He was received at Damascus International Airport by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; the director of the Arab Homeland Department; the chief of protocol at the Foreign Ministry; and the Tunisian ambassador in Damascus.

In a departure statement to a SANA correspondent in Tunis, Es-Sebsi said that he has a message from Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba to President Hafiz al-Asad. He explained that this visit will be an excellent opportunity to exchange views with Syrian leaders on the current international situation and issues of common interest, particularly the Arab situation and the requirements for the battle against Zionist arrogance.

Cabinet Formally Approves Lebanon Agreement
TA221412 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1341 GMT 22 May 83

[Text] Here is another look at today's Cabinet session:

Against the opposition of Ministers Sharon and Ne'eman, the Cabinet today approved the agreement between Israel and Lebanon. Minister Ari'el Sharon demanded to know before the approval what had happened to the explanations Israel had asked for about the planning of the security strip in southern Lebanon, the status of the UNIFIL forces, and the status of Major Sa'd Haddad.

Regarding Maj Haddad, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir reported that it had been agreed that Haddad would remain in the Lebanese Army and would be given a senior post, but there was still no agreement about the definition of this post. The foreign minister added, in reply to Minister Sharon's request, that the memorandum of understanding between Israel and the United States would soon be presented to the Cabinet or the Ministerial Committee for Security Affairs. This report was filed by our political correspondent 'Oz Frankel.

Sharon Again Criticizes Accord
TA201627 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1600 GMT 20 May 83

[Text] Tel Aviv, 20 May (ITIM) — Former Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon has again criticized the accord signed with Lebanon, stating that the agreement will weaken the only organized force Israel can depend on there, and might also serve as a future model for a solution someone might want to force upon us in Judaea and Samaria.

Appearing at a luncheon on behalf of the "Forum" stage at the Tel Aviv Hilton, Minister Sharon attacked remarks recently being voiced by various elements on the need for Israeli concessions in view of the agreement. "This is a show of Jewish naivete that is unparalleled, opposite Arab cunning and U.S. sophistication together with incessant pressure to bring the IDF back home. This also affects our government, and we are now starting the whole cycle once again, as a result of Syrian opposition," he said.

The minister argued that at the early stages of the negotiations with Lebanon he always maintained that Israel should conduct the talks on two parallel levels: one with the United States which in turn would hold a dialogue with the Syrians, the PLO, and others; and one directly with Lebanon, with U.S. participation. "I even repeatedly warned at all forums that we should not tread the path we ultimately took, because then Israel would be forced to make a series of concessions and we would ultimately cast the matter back to the Syrians," he said.

Sharon noted that because of this, and because Haddad and southern Lebanon have been abandoned, he was forced to vote against the agreement. "I am not against the agreement with Lebanon. On the contrary, as far back as January 1982 — some 5 months before the war in Lebanon — I visited Beirut to review the situation up close. At that time, I held talks with top Lebanese figures and we discussed the possibility of how and when it would be possible to reach an agreement between the two countries if the situation deteriorates and Israel is forced to enter Lebanon," he added.

The former defense minister also said that in the many meetings he had with Lebanese and U.S. personalities, he agreed in general terms on an agreement that is quite similar to the one reached now. The political part of it is very good, he said, but in the military part a host of concessions which are both far-reaching and significant were made, and he cannot endorse them.

"From the security point of view, it was necessary to make sure that even if the Syrians do not withdraw from Lebanon, the IDF could still limit its forces to the bare minimum, and this was only feasible if there was someone we could rely on. The only element that we could rely on was the establishment built and nurtured in southern Lebanon, known as Haddad's forces. It is not only Haddad, but the southern coalition of various forces and sects. And now, if the Syrians refuse to withdraw, the agreement weakens this establishment, to which the IDF was supposed to hand over its job in that region."

In reply to a question on the future of Judaea and Samaria, Sharon warned against the possibility that the "Lebanese model" might be forced upon us. After all, the United States has not changed its position and the "Rogers plan" still exists — meaning a return to the 1967 borders. This has only one import: That neither the IDF nor any other force would be in those areas. And then what happened in Lebanon will be repeated exactly. The extremists will gain control and establish a "country of terrorism" inside Judaea and Samaria. "And then, if we are forced to take action against them, various Arab countries might well interfere, and there is also the danger that they would furthermore set the whole world against us."

"Anyone who thinks that one could proceed with any plan in Judaea and Samaria without our absolute security control — domestically and externally — is absolutely wrong," he declared. "The situation must not be allowed where there is even one place in Judaea and Samaria that is out of bounds for Jews. What bothers me is that the agreement in Lebanon, on this matter too, might serve as a model for a 'solution' that might be forced upon us," he added.

Sharon noted that in view of the Lebanese experience, one must never allow a situation where there is "West Nabulus" and "East Nabulus," "West Hebron" and "East Hebron," just like "West Beirut" and "East Beirut". "The Lebanese lesson has taught us that it is necessary to carry out construction in Judaea and Samaria quickly, and establish an infrastructure there, as well as industrial plants that will service the Jewish and Arab population there," he emphasized.

The former defense minister strongly condemned those elements of the public which question the justness of our war in Lebanon. "All those who today shout their protest against that war keep forgetting that in that war we eliminated the reign of terror in Lebanon — that we destroyed the ominous missiles and put an end to the shelling of our settlements. The problems we are now facing involve how to maintain these achievements and prevent the situation from returning to its former state," he said.

Sharon believes that the only "no other choice" war Israel was involved in was the war of independence, whereas all the other wars had a certain measure and degree of importance and vital significance for our existence.

As for the danger of increased Soviet intervention, the minister said that in principle no substantial change has taken place. Syria was, and continues to be ruled completedly by the Soviet Union. The only difference is in the numbers. At present the number of Soviet experts is double that of prewar times, and reaches approximately 5,000, "and of course we are not happy about the introduction of long-range missiles into Syria." On the other hand, Sharon believes that the Soviet Union is not pushing Syria toward engaging in a military move. On the contrary, it forms a moderating element insofar as the danger of an all-out war is concerned.

On economic matters, Sharon said that the Cabinet must show leadership and resolve, and said he thinks there is a vital need to employ a series of unpopular measures — that could harm each one of us — to curb the deterioration in the economy. "I think these steps should have been taken long ago, because usually it is better to take these measures immediately after the elections and not in the middle of the term," he said.

Chief of Staff Supports Unilateral Withdrawal

TA221633 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 22 May 83

[Text] This afternoon Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Moshe Levi expressed support for a unilateral withdrawal from the current IDF lines. The chief of staff said this at a meeting with military correspondents, a meeting that ended less than an hour ago in Tel Aviv. Our military correspondent Hayim Ravya reports:

[Ravya] This afternoon the chief of staff said that there was room to examine the IDF deployment in Lebanon and thus decrease the superfluous risks involved in a further stay — for example, the chance of a confrontation with the Syrians. We must determine a unilateral withdrawal plan that can be agreed upon by those who signed the agreement; that is, Lebanon, Israel, and the United States.

Lt Gen Levi said that outside enemies could be expected to oppose such a step. Plans are now being prepared that will have to be discussed by the political echelons in order to eliminate most of the political limitations involved in such a move. The chief of staff also said that a further stay in Lebanon would cost an estimated 6 billion shekels. However, he emphasized this was purely a rough estimate.

Further Comments From Levi

TA221756 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 22 May 83

[Excerpts] Israel is experiencing a period of tension with the Syrians, but there are no clear-cut signs of a military confrontation with them Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Moshe Levi stated, adding that the IDF is prepared for any eventuality. The continued presence of the IDF in Lebanon will influence the length of reserve duty this year, and some soldiers will have to serve 60 days in the reserves, he noted. Our correspondent Shalom Oren reports:

[Begin Oren recording] Recently there has been Syrian activity on the Golan Heights with the Syrians reinforcing their troops there, stated Chief of Staff Lt Gen Moshe Levi in a meeting with military correspondents in Tel Aviv.

Referring to Lebanon, the chief of staff stated: I do not rule out the possibility of an agreed-upon and unilateral withdrawal to the Al-'Awwali River and plans to this effect are being discussed in regular meetings of the General Staff.

Due to the extended presence in Lebanon it will be necessary to add at least another 6 billion Israeli shekels to the defense budget, beyond the budget which has been approved. He added that discussions are currently underway over this additional sum. This year the IDF is introducing innovations and increasing the pace of training, even more than in the past, and aside from the presence in Lebanon.

The chief of staff addressed himself to many issues in his appearance before military correspondents. He said that the General Staff would hold its first debate this evening about the issue of the field command and that, as far as he is concerned, conclusions would be drawn within a few months.

The chief of staff confirmed that the formulation of several instructions regarding Judaea and Samaria has been amended, and a permanent team regularly handles the affairs of Judaea and Samaria. He did not rule out the possibility of deporting rioters and provocateurs. In any event, the chief of staff made light of the importance of the so-called new instructions regarding Judaea and Samaria.

Concluding his remarks, Moshe Levi stated: I will do everything possible to draw the line between politics and my army service, and I hope to succeed. [end recording]

Military Sources View Next Likely Syrian Moves

TA220954 Tel Aviv Yedi'ot Aharonot in Hebrew 22 May 83 pp 1,7

[Report by military correspondent Eytan Haber]

[Excerpt] Senior Israeli military elements believe that the signing of the agreement between Lebanon and Israel through U.S. mediation gives the Syrian president "a grace period" to consider his next moves.

The assessment is that the Syrian president will, in the next 2 weeks, try to reassess his political and military moves. Until then, the likelihood that large-scale acts of belligerence would begin is rather small. At the same time, the possibility is not being dismissed that the Syrians might carry out what to them would be a small-scale operation, which nevertheless would be intolerable to the IDF.

In any event, the security elements believe that the summer months ahead will probably be difficult from an Israeli point of view. At that time the parties will "walk a tightrope" and the distance between calm and war will be very small.

'Wait, See' Position

TA201137 Tel Aviv Hatsofe in Hebrew 20 May 83 pp 1, 2

[Report by Yona Kohen and news agencies]

[Excerpt] Israel has informed the U.S. Administration that it is now moving to a "wait and see position" and is waiting to see the results of the negotiations with Syria. It has also informed the United States that it is placing no time limit on the length of the negotiations.

Nonetheless, it was stated that joint deliberations involving the Governments of the United States, Lebanon, and Israel will start soon in order to determine who will enter the territories and how, once Israel withdraws to the line near its northern border.

Israel and the United States have agreed that no vacuum should be created in the area, and that this should be done in order to prevent a Syrian penetration. They also agreed that it is impossible to depend on the Lebanese Army and trust it to fill the gap. Furthermore, it was concluded that Israel will not be required [tidaresh] to make further concessions beyond what it had already given up in the course of the negotiations.

Another problem that will have to be considered is what will happen in a few weeks — or about 2 months — if it transpires that Syria is adamant in refusing to leave Lebanon. Israeli political and security sources have begun examining the various possibilities before this is debated with the United States and Lebanon.

Harif Assesses Syrian Position on Agreement

TA201250 Tel Aviv Ma'ariv in Hebrew 20 May 83 p 14

[Commentary by Yosef Harif: "After the Agreement, Before the Bargaining With Syria"]

[Text] The very fact that Damascus announced that it is not prepared to receive U.S. envoy Philip Habib — who is actually President Reagan's personal messenger — is a public slap in the face, possibly even unprecedented in the annals of modern history. Nonetheless, the United States believes that "the Syrians will ultimately withdraw" from Lebanon.

What is it that gives rise to this "optimism?"

The United States may believe that when Damascus is shown unassailable evidence that the United States will back the Israel-Lebanon accord, and that by and large the Arab world, too, supports it — thus leaving Syria isolated, and having to decide whether to withdraw or to remain in Lebanon, which in turn means that the IDF would take up positions at convenient strategic points and would under no circumstances allow Syria to initiate a war of attrition against Israel — that if that is done, Damascus might sober up and be ready to discuss with Lebanon ways to arrange for the withdrawal of the Syrian forces.

What is now in question are deliberations "with the Lebanese," because as authoritative U.S. sources indicated, the United States is not inclined to play the role of broker between Lebanon and Syria, or play any role similar to the one played by Habib or Draper in the Lebanese-Israeli negotiations.

This goal required an urgent Lebanese-U.S. effort to guarantee maximum support for the Lebanese-Israeli accord, and the result of this energetic behind-the-scenes activity is really impressive: In addition to Egypt and Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Algeria, and other North African countries, together with the Gulf countries, all have expressed support for this agreement despite the desperate call by the Syrians to the Arab countries to boycott Lebanon.

There is nothing to be jealous of in the U.S.-Syrian negotiations, as the latter regard themselves as defeated and hurt — first from the Lebanese "cheek" at daring to sign an accord with Israel; second, because despite the belligerent actions initiated by Damascus, which threatened to bring upon Beirut once again the scenes of destruction, death, and chaos, the Lebanese Parliament still endorsed the agreement with Israel unanimously.

As a result of the anger involved in the loss of prestige, Syria moved on to the stage of raising "logical" reasons to object to the Lebanese-Israeli agreement: First this will be detrimental to... Lebanon itself. And second, such an agreement jeopardizes Syria and conflicts with a Lebanese commitment to Syria dated...1943. When Lebanon was first established in that year, it signed a pledge — as the Syrians carefully note — that it would not endanger Syria, but the agreement with Israel means distinct danger to the Syrians....

One thing can thus be learned from the development of events: Even if the Syrians do ultimately leave Lebanon, this will not happen before tiring and nerve-wracking negotiations that could take weeks upon weeks, if not many months.

The truth is that Syria has found itself surprised by the content of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement, both from political and military aspects. Syria knows very well that this agreement, "limited" though it may be, opens new horizons for Israel and not only in Lebanon. When Syria promised the Lebanese — "in writing," as the Lebanese argue — it apparently never imagined that this would be the essence of the accord.

"This" — when the agreement and the appended understandings stipulate a detailed system of security arrangements along the Israeli-Lebanese border, which include the establishment of a security zone inside Lebanon, which stretches along a broad strip; explicit limitations on military forces and arms that could be maintained in the security zone; a territorial brigade that will include Haddad's forces and will be deployed in the southern part of the security zone; as well as joint IDF-Lebanese Army Supervisory Teams that will supervise and coordinate the implementation of the security arrangements.

Syria, evidently, relies on the IDF more than various opposition

elements do. Damascus understands full well that this is another "armistice agreement," because this agreement is a political agreement, apart from the security issue detailed in it. And as a political agreement, the distance between that and a peace treaty is very small. Provided, of course, that the agreement between Lebanon and Israel really materializes.

Will it?

Even Syria knows that there is a memorandum of agreement [mizkar haskama] between the United States and Israel, stating that Washington undertakes to do everything to implement the accord between Jerusalem and Beirut. In other words, Damascus is not only engaged in business with Israel, but also with the United States which may, in accordance with that memorandum of agreement, show understanding should Israel be forced to use its right to self-defense. If, in order to defend itself against such an eventuality, Damascus will have to seek Soviet favors, President al-Asad knows that he would be completely ensnared by Moscow's claws, and he wants to avoid this with all his might.

All Al-Asad needs to do is to read the public agreement between Lebanon and Israel to find out with certainty that this is the first time a political agreement with an Arab country has no reference to "a comprehensive arrangement" — or in other words, the solution of the "Palestinian problem" as part of the framework of that agreement. The declarations included in the preamble to the Lebanese-Israeli accord admittedly mention "strengthening international peace," too, but insofar as the Middle East is concerned, the agreement is confined to bilateral relations — that is, between Israel and Lebanon.

In this sense, there is therefore no similarity between the armistice agreement and the one terminating the state of war between Lebanon and Israel. One need only compare these two declared objectives: This time the accord talks about mutual recognition between the two countries of "their right and obligation to live in peace with each other as well as with all states, within secure and recognized boundaries;" whereas the armistice agreements were not described as a bilateral arrangement, but as a step toward "solving the problem of Eretz Yisra'el" — i.e., the Palestinian problem.

Moreover, this time the agreement includes a mutual commitment to respect "the sovereignty, political independence, and territorial integrity" and a declaration that the parties "consider the existing international boundary between Israel and Lebanon inviolable." This stands in utter contrast to the armistice agreement that stated explicitly that "they were dictated only by military considerations." It follows naturally that this time the permanent border between the two countries was set, whereas previously it was described as "the border [qav tihum] for the armistice."

The Lebanese-Israeli agreement includes a declaration that "the parties confirm that the state of war between Israel and Lebanon has been terminated and no longer exists." It is true that Israel and Lebanon have not been engaged in all-out wars since 1948, but this declaration still carries important political weight, because Lebanon formed part of the Arab consensus that insisted that the 1949 armistice agreement did not terminate the state of war, and that a state of war still prevailed between Israel and the Arab countries. This Lebanese digression is not desirable to Syria or the Arab countries' radicals, because it means that out of its four neighbors, Israel has a recognized international border with half (Egypt and Lebanon) as the peace border, which is something that has never existed since the establishment of Israel until the signing of the peace treaty with Egypt and the agreement with Lebanon.

International law recognizes two states of existence: A state of war and a state of peace. The termination of the state of war with Lebanon changes the relations with it to a state of peace. This in itself is a positive development from the political point of view, in connection with the Arab-Israeli conflict, whatever weight Lebanon may carry within the Arab world, such as it is.

An analysis of the document termed "agreement between the Government of the State of Israel and the Government of the Republic of Lebanon" — and Syria, Israel's neighbor and one that has territorial demands on it (the Golan Heights), is bound to have carried out such an analysis — shows that some of the achievements Israel won in the security sphere even transcend the political achievements. This could well be what annoys Damascus so much, seeing that "political declarations" even as part of a peace treaty are not that important, and suffice it to study the political declarations that are so numerous in the Egyptian-Israeli agreement to realize this. What counts even more is the agreement in the field, and in that respect the Syrians regard themselves as having been "betrayed" by the Lebanese and the Americans.

At the time, Syria agreed in principle to enter into negotiations to removing its forces from Lebanon on the basis of mutuality, but only after an agreement is reached [yuskam] on the withdrawal of all the Israeli forces from all of Lebanon, and after it is made clear that the Israeli withdrawal is not linked to substantive Lebanese political concessions that might guarantee Israeli influence in Lebanon for an extended period of time, and on the other hand which might prevent — or at least limit — Syria's chances of having direct influence on events on the Lebanese front. At any rate, the Syrians all the time insisted that under no circumstances should their presence — which they claimed was "legitimate" — in Lebanon be compared to that of Israel, which is nothing but a conqueror.

Damascus now learned that not only have far-reaching political concessions been made to Israel ("the termination of the state of war," the establishment of a liaison office in Lebanon, which is tantamount to a diplomatic representation, and the like) but that Syria and Israel, required to pull their forces out of Lebanon, have been "equated." Furthermore, Lebanon has granted Israel a series of far-reaching security arrangements, from the Syrian point of view.

Incidentally, to answer those people in Israel who see a kind of "affinity" between the agreement on the termination of the state of war and the armistice agreement, it should be pointed out that not only is there no correlation between the two in the political realm, but also — and maybe most importantly — there is no parallel between the two in the military aspect.

There is no comparison, for example, between the security framework established in this agreement and what was agreed upon [husdar] in the armistice agreement. One need only mention the fact that the limitations stipulated in the armistice agreement involved both sides of the border, leaving supervision in the hands of the United Nations, which also had the deciding vote in the armistice committee. However in our agreement, the United Nations plays no role in the security arrangements. Security arrangements were stated for southern Lebanon as well as the joint Israeli-Lebanese supervision mechanisms [with the participation of the United States at the military committee level). The decisions will be unanimous, and there is no "third party" ruling, as in the past.

Besides, there are far more detailed commitments in the present agreement than in past in regard to the prevention of hostility, aggression, and terrorism between the two countries. In view of past experience and the lessons drawn from it, now there is an explicit provision prohibiting offices of any other infrastructural basis for hostile or terrorist organizations — namely, the PLO. Furthermore, a stipulation is included in the arrangement whose clear import is the revocation of the "Cairo agreements" and other agreements that allowed the PLO to carry out activity against Israel from Lebanon; and there is also a declaration about the right to self-defense in connection with this article.

After all this, Al-Asad must read in the agreement — which Lebanon had supplied him with before signing it — that there is a Lebanese undertaking to prevent the stationing of hostile forces "in the area of the two countries" (Lebanon and Israel) and to prevent the transfer of such forces, described as countries that have no diplomatic relations with either party. What does this mean? It means that not only will Israel not agree to have in the Multinational Force — for instance — members from countries with which it has no diplomatic relations, but that forces from hostile Arab countries (such as forces from the East Bloc) are prohibited from being stationed in Lebanon.

There are some additional disconcerting articles in the Lebanese-Israeli accord, Syria believes, especially in view of the fact that up until a year ago it did in Lebanon as it pleased. There is a mutual commitment to nullify charters, laws, or regulations that conflict with the agreement within a year of its effective date, while during the interim period the parties undertake not to implement the existing commitments or legislate laws that contradict the agreement. In practical terms, this means that Lebanon undertakes not to make good any commitment as per a defense pact with the Arab League that conflicts with the agreement, such as the possibility of either stationing forces or letting them pass through. This, no doubt, is what so angers Syria, which suddenly finds itself deprived of any "legitimate" status like the one it had previously enjoyed.

The developments in Lebanon since the murder of Bashir al-Jumayyil and the rise of his brother Amin to power have improved Syria's maneuvering and bargaining ability. It is no secret that in his declarations, Amin helped instill in the hearts of the Syrians hopes that he would not do anything that could harm the Syrians or grant any substantial status to the Israelis. On this basis, Syria was ready to hold a dialogue with the Lebanese Administration together with expressing readiness to withdraw its forces from Lebanon. It was Syria, which feared an extended stalemate in the negotiations over the withdrawal of the foreign forces, because it thought that such a deadlock could lead to a de-facto partitioning of Lebanon, splitting it up between Syria and Israel.

In the confidential contacts held between Damascus and its supporters in Beirut, including with President Amin al-Jumayyil himself, Syria kept warning against signing a peace treaty with Israel, or even maintaining normalized relations with it. Syria similarly demanded that Amin:

A. Sustain Lebanon's link to the Arab world and uphold its commitment to the Arab League charter and the Arab summit resolutions;

B. Maintain close-knit relations with Syria;

C. Have security arrangements, particularly for the Al-Biqa' region which it considers a security zone vital to its interests, similar to the security region in the south, formerly under Haddad's control;

D. Incorporate Syria's supporters and allies in Lebanon (such as Franjiyah's men, Karami's men, and the leftist parties) within the Lebanese Administration and guarantee the safety and well-being of those as well as that of the Palestinian population.

Syria had another reason to express readiness for withdrawal: The withdrawal of the remaining PLO forces from Lebanon to Syria, following the withdrawal of the Syrian forces, could have bolstered Damascus' influence on the PLO and guaranteed that the PLO continue to toe the Syrian line. And then, lo and behold, there came the Lebanese-Israeli agreement and broke this whole concept. Lebanon, Damascus realized, dared not fulfill Syria's demands, finding shelter in the U.S. and Israeli lap.

This, in any case, is how Damascus interprets the Lebanese-Israeli accord. And when Al-Asad realized that not only the moderate countries, but also some of the more radical ones like Algeria and Iraq support Lebanese's decision and accept its arrangement with Israel, he became very angry and began threatening everything and everyone....

Outwardly, Damascus tried to create the impression that it is not pressed for time and that it could stay in Lebanon for a long time, whereas Israel's time is running out, if Damascus is to judge by the public argument in Israel.

The truth is that the situation is not convenient even for Damascus. In fact, the situation that has been created brings Syria back to its earlier state, with a combat capability vis-a-vis Israel that has worsened in light of the exposure of its isolation. After all, Syria is not enjoying the fact that the IDF is present in Lebanon, constituting a direct threat to Syria and demanding that it confine large forces to Lebanon (more than three divisions). It is true that ever since the Soviet Union took control with the help of the modern missile systems, as a result of which thousands of Soviet advisers came to Syria, that country has become more strategically safe, but it is still not an easy solution for Damascus. If the United States promised Israel in the memorandum of

agreement that Israel will only withdraw from Lebanon if Syria does simultaneously, then one must also reckon that the United States will likewise know how to neutralize the Soviet intervention (and U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger has already made such warnings). It follows that should there be a conflagration, Syria will find itself opposite Israel, and there is a great doubt that Al-Asad really wants this. He undoubtedly can calculate the outcome of such an eventuality.

This may be the reason why the United States believes that the negotiations with Syria over the removal of its forces will be tough, but are not hopeless. Past experience has shown that despite President al-Asad's firm declarations, he knows how to fold up at the last minute and demonstrate a sense of realism.

Yet in order for such a thing to happen, the United States must show consistent determination and never recoil before Al-Asad. Will it be able to stand up to Syria?

The view in Jerusalem is that it will not surrender. At any rate, for fear that Washington might nonetheless lose its patience and, when in distress, ask Israel to show "understanding" for the situation, Israel insisted on signing a clear and explicit memorandum of agreement with the United States. It was reported in the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem last week that it was former Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Refa'el Eytan who said once that he doubts the Americans, who after managing to effect an agreement between Lebanon and Israel might, if the Syrians refuse to stage a simultaneous withdrawal as promised, as usual come to Israel and ask it to withdraw first, under the pretext that this "would make it easier for the United States to persuade... the Syrians."

It looks like this time things will not be like this. The United States cannot go back on its memorandum of agreement with Israel. It knows that Prime Minister Menahem Begin, who just barely accepted the "Shultz document," will never think of beginning the withdrawal before the Syrian forces and the terrorists withdraw. Moreover, any American or Lebanese diversion from the agreement will entitle Israel to act according to its best considerations, which means that Israel might establish its own security zone as it sees proper. If this should happen, both the United States and Lebanon know full well that this would spell the end of the dream of restoring to Lebanon its sovereignty and territorial integrity.

What we have witnessed upon the signing of the accord between Lebanon and Israel is nothing but a war of nerves. If Israel wisely maintains its cool and patience, it will emerge the winner.

Arens Sends Weinberger 'Friendly' Personal Message

TA221035 Tel Aviv Davar in Hebrew 22 May 83 p 2

["Exclusive" report from the United States by Yosef Pri'el]

[Text] Washington — Defense Minister Moshe Arens sent a most friendly personal message to his U.S. counterpart, Caspar Weinberger, at the end of last week. This *Davar* correspondent has learned that in his letter, Arens said he wished to thank Weinberger for his firm remarks last week against a Soviet military adventure in Syria. He also thanked him for his contribution toward prompting the resolutions that led to the approval of all of Israel's requests for licenses for U.S. companies to be involved in the production of the "Lavi" aircraft.

According to Israeli officials in Washington, the personal message was intended to lead to the improvement of relations between Arens and Weinberger and to lead to the resumption of their personal ties, in view of the fact that in an interview about a month ago on U.S. television, Arens thanked President Reagan and Secretary Shultz for their decision to grant permission to U.S. firms to participate in the manufacture of the "Lavi" aircraft, but explicitly refrained from thanking Caspar Weinberger. It looks as though in this letter, Arens wanted to mitigate the impression these remarks left regarding his close ties with Secretary of State George Shultz.

Begin To Visit United States 'Probably' in July

TA220903 Tel Aviv Ha'aretz in Hebrew 22 May 83 p 1

["Exclusive" report from the United States by Gid'on Samet]

[Excerpts] Washington — President Reagan will soon officially invite Prime Minister Menahem Begin to visit the United States. The visit will probably be held in early July, and this follows a series of acts through which the administration expressed the improvement in the relations between the two countries last Friday.

Secretary of State George Shultz said at a meeting he requested with the heads of the Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish Organizations that the administration is looking forward to the prime minister's visit and to the continued cooperation with Jerusalem. The delegation, headed by Chairman Julius Berman, was impressed that Shultz' visit to Israel has bolstered the political and strategic ties between the two countries. After the meeting, Berman said that he believes the two countries are marching toward a period of closer links, and that good relations have been established between Begin and Shultz.

Shultz repeated the administration's concern with the Soviet involvement, and attributed the approval of the sale of the F-16 aircraft to Israel to this. In parallel, the Senate approved the administration's request to allocate $251 million as emergency aid to Lebanon. The aid, broken down into military and economic items, includes $100 million as credit for the reequipping of two brigades.

Envoy To U.S. Comments on F-16's, Congress

TA210845 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0805 GMT 21 May 83

[Deputy Ambassador to Washington Binyamin Netanyahu interviewed by Yosef Pri'el; date and place not given]

[Excerpts] [Netanyahu] In the first place, the lifting of the embargo on the F-16's is important with respect to security. Israel will get aircraft that are important for its security. There is also symbolic import: This serves as a warning to the Soviets

and the Syrians that the United States stands firm in its support of Israel. Third, I think it is a general sign — that is, it is a readable sign of the improvement of bilateral relations.

[Question] As for the F-16 deal, it will now be submitted to Congress for approval, or more precisely, for non-rejection. In your view, are any problems to be expected in the Congress in this regard?

[Answer] No, I do not expect any problems. Generally, the atmosphere in Congress is very friendly to Israel. There were those who predicted that after the war in Lebanon Congressional support for Israel would collapse. But we have seen that the opposite is the case. I would say that Israel's position in Congress has never been as strong as it is today.

[Question] This improvement that has taken place in relations between Israel and the United States has not been accompanied for the time being by any movement in the field regarding the subject of Lebanon. You met with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz this week. How do the Americans view the possibility of removing the Syrians — and subsequently us also — from this Lebanese entanglement?

[Answer] They are first of all very concerned by the latest Syrian moves and the support they are getting from the Soviets. Of course, they would like to find a diplomatic solution to this problem, but they have not yet decided on a clear course of action for removing them from there.

U.S. Pentagon Delegation Concludes Visit

TA201235 Tel Aviv Ma'ariv in Hebrew 20 May 83 p 1

[Report by military correspondent Ya'aqov Erez]

[Text] A U.S. delegation of officers and Pentagon officials has recently concluded a visit to Israel. It came to rephrase the memorandums of understanding with the defense establishment on production and development.

The delegation was headed by a U.S. Navy admiral and it included other senior officers, one of them a general from the U.S. Army as well as an aide to the U.S. undersecretary of defense. The delegation focused most of its talks on production and development, and phrased the memorandums to allow for continued cooperation in that area, and particularly to regulate the transfer of information gleaned from the war in Lebanon to the United States.

During the visit, the delegation members met with senior IDF and defense establishment officials. Some of the delegates have already returned to the United States, but others are finalizing the last details on the accords between the two countries. It has been learned that additional U.S. delegations are expected to visit here as well.

ALGERIA

Syrian Minister Arrives With Al-Asad Message

LD212334 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 21 May 83

[Text] Faruq ash-Shar', Syrian minister of state for foreign affairs and special envoy of President Hafiz al-Asad, arrived in Algiers this evening. He said on arrival at Houari Boumediene Airport that he is carrying a message from President Hafiz al-Asad to President Chadli Bendjedid concerning recent developments in the region following the signing of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement.

Tunisian Defense Minister Arrives 22 May

LD230109 Algiers Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 22 May 83

[Excerpt] Mr Slaheddine Baly, member of the Political Bureau of the Destour Socialist Party, has arrived in Algiers for an official visit, which is to last several days, at the invitation of the Ministry of National Defense. The Tunisian defense minister was welcomed by Colonel Mustapha Benloucif, member of the Central Committee and secretary general of the Ministry of National Defense.

Tunisian Interior Official Arrives for Talks

LD222235 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 22 May 83

[Excerpt] Mr Ahmed Bennoub, Tunisian secretary of state for the interior and member of the Political Bureau of the Destour Socialist Party, arrived in Algiers this afternoon. He was received by President Chadli Bendjedid in the presence of Interior Minister Yala and Director General of National Security [name indistinct]. During his stay the Tunisian secretary of state will hold talks with Algerian party and government leaders.

LIBYA

USSR's Demchenko Arrives on Visit 20 May

LD201937 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1900 GMT 20 May 83

[Text] Tripoli, 20 May (JANA) — Vladimir Demchenko, deputy chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the Soviet-Libyan Friendship Society, arrived in Tripoli this evening on a visit to the Jamahiriyah.

In a statement to a JANA reporter, he expressed his appreciation for the prominent role the Jamahiriyah is playing in the struggle against U.S. imperialism and Zionism. He stressed the solidarity of the Soviet Union with the people of the Jamahiriyah in their opposition to all U.S. imperialist plans.

He also expressed the hope that his visit would contribute to the promotion of the relations of friendship and cooperation between the two friendly peoples.

Meets With Officials

LD212210 Tripoli JANA in English 1812 GMT 21 May 83

[Text] Tripoli, Shaban 9, May 21, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The secretary of the Libyan Arab-Soviet Friendship Society this morning conferred in Tripoli with the chairman of the Soviet-Libyan Arab Friendship Society Mr Vladimir Demchenko.

The meeting that was also attended by the secretary of the International Green Book Research Centre, reviewed bilateral Soviet-Libyan Arab relations and methods of developing cooperation in all fields in the interests of both peoples.

The meeting also stressed the importance of the alliance between the Libyan Arab and Soviet people in confronting imperialist and Zionist schemes to undermine the ambitions of peoples struggling for freedom throughout the world.

The secretary of the Libyan Arab Friendship Society also briefed Mr Demchenko on the giant accomplishments and transformations realised by the Libyan Arab people under the great Al-Fitah revolution.

On the other hand the secretary of the International Green Book Research Centre also briefed Mr Demchenko on the immortal theses of the third universal theory that promise final salvation for man from all forms of slavery and oppression.

People's Bureau Members Expelled From Upper Volta

LD221007 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0700 GMT 22 May 83

[Text] Tripoli, 22 May (JANA) — The leaders of the coup in Upper Volta have demanded that the members of the Libyan Arab People's Bureau in Upper Volta be expelled, allegedly for inciting the soldiers to go to Ghana and be handed weapons there [wa-taslimihim aslihah hunak].

The members of the People's Bureau have left the captal, Ouagadougou, at the request of the new leaders of the coup.

The new leaders of the coup in Upper Volta have arrested Captain Thomas Snkara, the leader of the genuine revolutionary uprising, on the pretext that he was inciting the masses in Upper Volta to take power and to establish a Jamahiri regime in place of the military regime that used to rule the country, and to expand relations with Libya.

Al-Qadhdhafi Warns 'Traitors' of Withdrawal Accord

LD222224 Tripli JANA in Arabic 1930 GMT 22 May 83

[Text] Tripoli, 22 May (JANA) — Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi has announced that Libya, Syria, and the PLO strongly oppose the Lebanese-Zionist agreement. He said: We are opposed a thousand times to any Arab country losing its independence, being occupied, or for this country to recognize Israel and strike out Palestine.

Col al-Qadhdhafi said that this agreement is worse than the Stable David agreement. If As-Sadat was killed by 50 bullets for signing the Stable David agreement, whoever signs the Lebanese-Zionist agreement of shame should be executed by 5,000 bullets. Whoever has participated in the negotiations should be blacklisted, and the Arab nation should pursue him and kill him as it killed As-Sadat.

He said: I warn those traitors who signed the agreement which has lost us the Arab region, Lebanon and [words indistinct] Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon in return for recognition of Israel, striking out Palestine, and ending the state of war with Israel, and who have utilized their capabilities for its protection, security, and for establishing mutual relations of peace with the Israelis.

Statement Denies Libyan Interference in Chad

LD221809 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 22 May 83

[Text] The government media of both the Egyptian and lackey Numayri regimes reported statements by their respective officials concerning so-called Libyan interference in Chad. A source in the People's Committee of the People's Office for External Liaison comments on these fabricated claims in the following statement:

In essence these statements include excuses and justifications for covering up what the regimes of the lackey Numayri and Egypt had plotted; namely, to interfere in Chad according to a prearranged imperialist scheme which was to serve imperialist purposes in the area. Contrary to what these officials issue in their claims and lies, Libya is still neutral regarding events in Chad. Libya is committed to this position. However, if any foreign forces interfere in Chad, then it will abandon its neutrality and adopt a different stand to close any gap through which America and the anti-Libyan reactionaries can pass in order to transform Chad into an anti-Libyan base, an imperialist base, and an anti-African imperialist domain of influence.

Here we must remember what the brother leader of the revolution said in his speech celebrating the return of our victorious forces from Chad on 28 November 1981 after they had fulfilled their historic role. The leader stressed that we would never allow the colonialists and reactionaries to interfere between us and our friends.

The security of Chad is connected to the security of Libya and vice versa. Chadian and Libyan soil are one soil and Chadian and Libyan peoples form, in fact, one people. It is impossible to move Chad away from Libya or Libya away from Chad.

Two French journalists, [names indistinct], who returned this week from Chad said that they had stayed for 2 months with the ranks of the liberation army and that they did not see a single Libyan, contrary to what Hissein Habre and his associates in Ndjamena claim. The two journalists told the French *(?La Pression)* that on the day before yesterday, supporters of Goukouni defeated an attack by the forces of Hissein Habre in Ounianga Kebir, north of Chad. *(?La Pression)* reported the journalists as saying that the supporters of Goukouni Oueddei took 920 prisoners and killed an additional 200 of the forces of Habre during the battle.

Syrian Minister Arrives on Visit 21 May

LD211756 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1530 GMT 21 May 83

[Text] Tripoli, 21 May (JANA) — Brother Faruq Ash-Shar', the Syrian minister of state for foreign affairs, arrived at noon today on a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

Brother Faruq ash-Shar' praised the Jamahiriyah's firm stand concerning the agreement of disgrace and shame between the Lebanese Government and the Zionists. He said: "This stand is a strong support for us in Syria in combating the plots against the existence of our Arab nation."

The Syrian minister of state for foreign affairs added that the agreement of disgrace and shame between the Lebanese Government and the Zionists is against the interests and aspirations of the Lebanese people and the masses of our Arab nation. This is because the agreement makes Lebanon a Zionist protectorate within the framework of the American strategy, which wants to force the Arab nation to surrender. Hence the Syrian firm rejection of this agreement, which we have expressed more than once. It is also rejected from the Lebanese point of view, and this has been expressed by all the progressive and patriotic forces in Lebanon.

Meets With Jallud, Departs

LD212112 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2015 GMT 21 May 83

[Text] Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud received Brother Faruq Ash-Shar', Syrian minister of state for foreign affairs, today. The Syrian minister outlined the current Arab situation with regard to the signing of the agreement of shame between the Lebanese Government and the Zionist enemy. They discussed coordination between the Jamahiriyah and Syria in confronting this serious development threatening the Arab nation and exposing its security and peace to danger, especially as it constitutes in essence a challenge to the Arab nation because of the new positions it provides for the enemy in the Arab homeland and the heart of Lebanon for new aggression against the Arab nation.

Brother Faruq ash-Shar' left Tripoli this evening after a short visit to the Jamahiriyah.

Iranian Minister Meets With Al-'Ubaydi 21 May

LD211803 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1545 GMT 21 May 83

[Text] Tripoli, 21 May (JANA) — 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi, secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison, met today at noon with Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam and members of his delegation.

Discussions during the meeting covered cooperation between the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and the Islamic Republic of Iran and ways to bolster them for the good of the two peoples. The discussions also covered ways of bolstering bilateral relations in the face of the offensives by imperialism and Zionism against the Arab and Islamic nation.

Agreement on Lebanon Denounced
GF221700 Tehran IRNA in English 1612 GMT 22 May 83

[Text] Tehran, May 22, IRNA — Iran and Libya jointly denounced the Lebanese and Zionist regime agreement on withdrawal of the foreign forces from Lebanon and urged the world of Islam, Arab countries and the Steadfastness Front to confront the U.S. imperialism. It was announced following a meeting between Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam and Libya's Secretary of the Bureau for External Relations 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi.

Sheykh ol-Eslam arrived here two days ago.

Departs 22 May
LD222015 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1800 GMT 22 May 83

[Text] Tripoli, 22 May (JANA) — Hoseyn Shaykh ol-Eslam, Iranian deputy foreign minister, left Tripoli this evening together with his accompanying delegation at the end of his visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

DPRK Vice President Arrives in Tripoli 21 May
LD211806 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1500 GMT 21 May 83

[Text] Tripoli, 21 May (JANA) — Pak Song-chol, vice president and personal envoy of DPRK President Kim Il-song, arrived in Tripoli today at the head of a delegation.

He told a JANA correspondent that his visit falls within the framework of the constant efforts being exerted to bolster cooperation between the two friendly countries. As members of the Nonaligned Movement, the DPRK and the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah stand solidly in the face of imperialist plots aimed at harming the freedom of the struggling peoples.

He affirmed that the relations of friendship and cooperation between the two friendly countries have witnessed a noticeable development in all fields, and that these relations have become even stronger thanks to the successful visit by Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the commander of the Great 1 September Revolution, to the DPRK in November last year.

He said that the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and the DPRK will do their utmost, through the treaty of friendship, to develop and bolster cooperation in the economic and scientific fields and to check imperialist plots.

He said the visit will enable him to exchange and discuss views on all matters of common interest and to coordinate stands toward the causes of liberation and combating imperialism. It will also enable him to acquaint himself with the cultural achievements made by the Libyan Arab people through their revolution.

He praised the pioneering role played by the bold Libyan Arab people in the face of the repeated military plots of imperialism, which aim at detracting from their achievements in all fields.

Nicaraguan Official Concludes Visit, Departs
LD212159 Tripoli JANA in English 1844 GMT 21 May 83

[Text] Tripoli, Shaban 9, May 21, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Mr Carlos Nunez, member of the Sandinista national leadership in Nicaragua and his accompanying delegation left Tripoli this morning after ending a visit to the Jamahiriyah.

Before leaving Tripoli, Nunez praised in a statement to our correspondent the close links of friendship between the Jamahiriyah and Nicaragua. He said the Somozan gangs' attacks against Nicaragua, supported as they are by U.S. imperialism, are an attempt to hinder the progress of the Nicaraguan and Libyan revolutions in their struggle against American imperialism.

He said the Jamahiriyah is on the top of the list of progressive countries expanding political and material support to Nicaragua to enable the country to continue to confront all conspiracies against Nicaragua.

Jabir Receives PFLP-GC Spokesman 21 May
LD220008 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2200 GMT 21 May 83

[Text] Brigadier Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, general commander of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces, received this evening Brother Fadl Sharur, the official spokesman for the PFLP-GC, who is currently visiting the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

MOROCCO

Libya's Al-'Ubaydi Ends Visit to Country
LD211224 Rabat MAP in Arabic 0900 GMT 21 May 83

[Text] Casablanca 21 May (MAP) — 'Abd al-'Ubaydi, the secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison in Libya and envoy of Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi has ended his visit to Morocco during which he was received by King Hassan II.

On leaving Casablanca, the Libyan envoy said that his visit was positive and falls within the framework of contacts between King Hassan II and Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and the consultations taking place over the situation in the Arab world and OAU.

He expressed the Libyan officials' satisfaction at these contacts, which serve the interest of the Arab nation in the face of the

Zionist threat. He also expressed his belief in the possibility of reaching a situation that would enable the 19th OAE summit to convene.

He said that the Libyan officials have confidence in the sincerity of the African leaders and their ability to solve the organization's problems and to ensure the convening of the conference.

SUDAN

Numayri To Order Division of Southern Region

JN222155 Kahrtoum SUNA in Arabic 1430 GMT 22 May 83

[Text] Khartoum, 22 May (SUNA) — Following the country's celebrations to mark the 14th anniversary of the May Revolution, President Numayri will issue an order dividing the Southern Region into three regions in order to transfer legistative and executive powers to the region's citizens. This will take effect at the start of the fiscal year in September.

President Numayri and some of his advisers are busy drafting this order. It is noteworthy that Sudan is currently divided into six regions administered by regional governments and four legislative institutions, which represent the regional people's assemblies. After the divison of the Southern Region, Sudan will be divided into eight regions.

Officials Comment on Mutiny in Southern Region

JN222008 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1745 GMT 22 May 83

[Text] Khartoum, 22 May (SUNA) — Josef James Tombura, chairman of the Southern Region's Higher Executive Council, has condemned the mutiny carried out by the 105th Battalion in the Bor and Pibor area. In a statement on this event, Tambura asserted that this mutiny took place out of the desire for personal profits and said that evidences affirm the involvement of foreign sides in instigating this mutinous group.

The statement also said that the involvement of foreign sides is clearly shown by the quantity of the ammunition and weapons seized in the Pibor area during the crushing operation of the mutiny. He also said that the military operation was carried out by a unit from the 1st Infantry Division without inflicting losses on civilian lives and property. Tombura also appealed to the citizens to inform of any suspect activities or movements and to confront tendentious rumors.

Israeli Weapons Seized

JN23113 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1100 GMT 23 May 83

[Text] Khartoum, 23 May (SUNA) — Dr Muhammad 'Uthman Abu Saq, minister of national guidance and information, has announced that the Armed Forces have recently managed to seize a quantity of Israeli weapons in the possession of the company which belongs to the 105th Battalion of the 1st Division in the Southern Region.

In a press conference held this morning, Dr Abu Saq added a further quantity of various weapons not used by the Sudanese Army has also been seized.

At his press conference here this morning, Abu Saq said that this move is nothing more than insubordination by a company totalling 100 to 150 persons to orders issued to it by its command. He stated that Sudan does not object to visits to the scene of events to become acquainted with the size of the mutiny.

Abu Saq stressed that forces belonging to the 1st Division of the People's Armed Forces in Juba had confronted the mutiny after they had exhausted all other options, after the company refused to carry out periodic orders of transfer, committed large financial violations, contacted foreign parties, obtained weapons and funds, and began to recruit members. After this, the company mutinied, set up fortifications, and occupied the airport and port in Bor.

Abu Saq added that [words indistinct] of the People's Armed Forces, 70 rebels, and several wounded and prisoners. he added that, despite the fact that the number of company does not exceed 150 members, this number increased because other elements from outside the People's Armed Forces were recruited, thus making the rebels in Bor number 200 and in Pibor 130.

Normality Restored in Bor

JN221846 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1740 GMT 22 May 83

[Text] Bor, 22 May (SUNA) — Abel Alier, member of the SSU Executive Bureau, has condemned the mutiny carried out by the 105th Battalion in the Bor and Pibor area. He said that the military operations undertaken by the Armed Forces to crush the mutiny were dictated by the dire need for stability and security in the city of Bor and in Jonglei Province in general.

Abel Alier, who witnessed the course of events in Bor, praised the commander of the military force which crushed the mutiny. He said that this force protected civilian lives and property and avoided inflicting material losses.

Alier pointed out that the regional government purged illegal weapons and pursued the absconded and infiltrators who belonged to the mutinous battalion. He added that most of the citizens who ran away for security reasons during the military operations have begun to return home and that normal life has returned to the city. He said that the foreigners working for foreign companies in Bor are living in peace and security, adding that their property is safe.

ETHIOPIA

PDRY Foreign Minister Delivers Message to Mengistu

EA212135 Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countries 1530 GMT 21 May 83

[Excerpt] Comrade Mengistu today received a message from the leader of the PDRY, Comrade 'Ali Nasir Muhammad. The message was delivered to the Provisional Military Administrative Council chairman by the foreign minister of the PDRY, Comrade 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali. On the occasion, Comrade Mengistu had talks with the PDRY foreign minister on current international issues and bilateral affairs.

Somali Forces Report Battle Claims Against Ethiopia

EA221737 (Clandestine) Voice of Western Somali and Abo Liberation Front in Somali to Western Somalia 1200 GMT 22 May 83

[Text] Somali Abo Liberation Force fighters and the black Abyssinian colonialist forces engaged in a bitter clash at (Handidu) on 14 May. Nineteen black Abyssinian soldiers were killed and over 48 others wounded.

In another engagement between the forces of the Abyssinian colonizers and the gallant Somali Abo fighters on 8 May, 39 black Abyssinian soldiers were killed and many others wounded.

The Somali Abo Liberation Forces lost 15 martyrs, with five others wounded.

KENYA

Moi Says OAU Summit To Be Held 6-11 June

EA221525 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 22 May 83

[Text] The 19th summit of the OAU will take place in the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa, from 6-11 next June as planned and no efforts by any member state of the OAU to frustrate this schedule will be heeded. This was said by His Excellency President Daniel arap Moi, who is also the current chairman of the OAU, when he received a special message today at State House, Nakuru, from the Ethiopian leader, Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam.

In a firm statement, President Moi said that there have been contradictory reports from certain member states, some calling for a postponement of the summit, which has already failed twice, and others giving conditions for the convening of the summit. The president pointed out that such voices of dissent are now in the minority and the summit will take place in Addis Ababa next June as planned.

President Moi went on to say that the OAU Committee of 12 had agreed in Nairobi and in New Delhi, India, that the forthcoming summit will be held in a climate of goodwill and understanding.

The president said that he was surprised that a member state which had witnessed the failure of two attempts to hold the summit on its own soil and which is a member of the committee is now twisting the arm and suggesting to the world community that the meeting should again go to Tripoli, and also giving preconditions for the success of the meeting.

The message from Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam was consolidating the stand and preparedness of the Ethiopian Government in ensuring success of next month's summit.

President Moi said that the Committee of 12 will meet on the fifth of next month to plan for the summit the next day. The president further stated that the majority of African states had now realized that the unity of Africa should not be sacrificed and traded in for divisive tactics. He said Africa shall resolve her continental issues as members of one body, speaking with one voice.

The special message was delivered to President Moi by the permanent secretary in the Ethiopian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr Tibebu Bekele, who was accompanied by his country's ambassador to Kenya, Mr Mengistu Desta. Also present was Kenya's permanent secretary for foreign affairs, Mr Japhet Shamalla.

Government Not To Reestablish Relations With Israel

EA201403 Nairobi The Daily Nation in English 20 May 83 p 28

[Excerpt] Kenya has no intention of re-establishing diplomatic relations with Israel, the minister for foreign affairs, Dr Robert Ouko, said yesterday. And the visit by an Israeli dance troupe had been opposed by the Foreign Ministry, he added. Dr Ouko was addressing newsmen during a Voice of Kenya television press conference.

Asked whether the recent Nairobi tour by the dancers meant that Kenya wanted to re-open diplomatic ties with Israel, the minister stressed: The government has not decided to establish diplomatic ties with Israel.

He said Kenya broke diplomatic ties with Israel following the Organization of African Unity (OAU) resolution in 1973. As the current chairman of the OAU we have the responsibility of being the custodians of those resolutions, he said. He said each African state had the sovereign right to establish diplomatic links with any other state but as member states of the OAU, African states had the obligation to honour OAU resolutions.

SOMALIA

Barre Receives Sudanese Military Delegation

EA200936 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1850 GMT 19 May 83

[Excerpt] The president of the SDR, Challe Mohamed Siad Barre, last night received at the Presidency in Mogadishu the

minister of state in the office of the Sudanese prime minister, Mr Muhammad al-Hasan al-Hajj, who is currently visiting Somalia, and the high-level delegation he is leading. The Sudanese delegation includes senior officials from the Sudanese Armed forces, including the commander of the Sudanese Navy, Lieutenant General Yusuf Husayn [last name indistinct] and Mr [Khalid Nuh], a member of the Sudanese Socialist Union Central Committee.

SDR President Challe Siad and the Sudanese delegation held lengthy talks which centered on ways to strengthen the existing relations and cooperation between the SDR and the Sudan. The SDR president asked the Sudanese delegation to convey his greetings to the president, government, and people of Sudan.

TANZANIA

Salim Leaves for Security Council Session

EA201631 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1300 GMT 20 May 83

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Ndugu Salim Ahmad Salim, left Dar es Salaam this morning for New York to attend next week's UN Security Council session devoted to a discussion of the implementation of Resolution No 435, which relates to the question of Namibia's independence.

All foreign ministers from the frontline states struggling for the liberation of southern Africa will attend the session, which is important to a solution of the Namibian independence issue.

The heads of the frontline states, who met last Thursday in Dar es Salaam, directed their foreign ministers to participate in the Security Council session. At their meeting, they called for the immediate implementation of UN Security Council Resolution No 435 on Namibia's independence.

UGANDA

Prime Minister Returns From Zaire Celebrations

EA212015 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1705 GMT 21 May 83

[Text] Prime Minister Otema Alimadi has returned from Kinshasa, Zaire, where he led a Uganda delegation at the celebrations marking the 15th anniversary of the ruling People's Movement of the Revolution, MPR, party and the installation of President Mobutu as field marshal. The delegation comprised the chief of staff, Major General Oyite Ojok, and the assistant treasurer of UPC, Mrs (Irene Emoro).

Before leaving Kinshasa, Prime Minister Otema Alimada met his Zairian counterpart, Mr Kengo wa Dondo, and delivered President Obote's message to President Mobutu. He also extended President Obote's invitation to Field Marshal Mobutu to visit Uganda.

Prime Minister Otema Alimadi said that the existing cordial relations between Presidents Mobutu and Obote, the governments and the peoples of the two countries should be strengthened even further.

Prime Minister Kengo wa Dondo of Zaire also extended President Mobutu's gratitude to Dr Obote for sending a delegation to attend the celebrations. He noted that his country attaches a lot of importance to relations between Uganda and Zaire.

Envoy Returns From Europe With Loan Agreements

LD212159 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1705 GMT 21 May 83

[Excerpt] France has given Uganda a grant of 50 million French francs to assist in the rehabilitation of the transport sector, especially the Uganda railways. An agreement between the two governments was recently signed in Paris. Ambassador Kamuntu, who represented President Obote in his capacity as minister of finance, signed on behalf of Uganda.

The grant will be used to provide technical assistance and training for Uganda Railways corporation personnel: to buy trucks, tools, machines for two locomotives, spares for existing locomotives, covered wagons, pick-ups and spares.

While in France, Ambassador Kamuntu also signed another agreement with the French Government concerning the rescheduling of Uganda's debts over a 10-year period, in accordance with recommendations of the Paris Club meeting of 1982.

Ambassador Kamuntu also met the director for African affairs at the French Ministry of External Affairs, Mr (Ozeau), to express the appreciation of the president, the government and the people of Uganda for the assistance and cooperation extended to Uganda by France. Ambassador Kamuntu and Mr (Ozeau) exchanged views on political, economic and security matters.

Ambassador Kamuntu reaffirmed the Uganda Government's commitment to restore democracy, law and order, rehabilitation and development of the economy.

Mr (Ozeau) said France appreciated the efforts made by the Uganda Government in the short time it has been in office. He assured Ambassador Kamuntu of the France Government's determination and willingness to assist and cooperate with Uganda.

Ambassador Kamuntu and his delegation also visited the West German capital, Bonn, and the EEC headquarters in Brussels.

In Bonn, the delegation held fruitful discussions with the new West German Government regarding the present and future economic and technical cooperation between the two countries. The delegation signed an agreement with the West German Government regarding outstanding claims made by the German exporters. The claims were rescheduled over a 10-year period in accordance with the agreement of the Paris Club meetings of 1981 and 1982.

In Brussels, the delegation reviewed with the EEC officials the implementation and disbursement of funds to projects in Uganda funded by the EEC. The projects include rural electrification, Kampala (?inter)-city rehabilitation, Kampala water supply and primary health.

Speaking to a UGANDA NEWS AGENCY correspondent, Ambassador Kamuntu said all the governments he had visited were very much impressed by the progress made by the UPC government under the leadership of President Obote in rebuilding the economy. They were now particularly impressed by the government's achievements since 1981, when it launched its economic and financial program.

Ambassdor Kamuntu noted with satisfaction that Uganda's image internationally is respected and emphasized the need to maintain the present momentum so that the progress of restoring Uganda's economy to the path of long-term growth is achieved. He said all the governments he had visited promised increased economic and financial cooperation and assistance to Uganda.

CHAD

'Vigorous Protest' Lodged Against Libya at UN

AB210929 Paris AFP in English 0418 GMT 21 May 83

[Text] United Nations, New York, May 21 (AFP) — Chad lodged a "vigorous protest" with the Security Council here on Friday about attacks by Libya throughout northern Chad.

Chad's UN representative, Ramanade Barma, said in a formal note that his government reserved the right to refer the issue to the council "if Libya continues its aggression." He said there had been fierce fighting in the north and "enormous loss of life" after an attack by Libyan forces against Chadian troops in the Ounianga-Kebir region on May 12.

The Chad envoy said: "There is no doubt that the aim pursued by Libya is to invade Chad and install a regime there at its service." Mr Barma asked the council to "make Libya listen to reason and stop violating with impunity" the UN Charter and a special declaration adopted when the Security Council examined an earlier complaint by Chad about Libyan behavior last month.

Border Problem With Nigeria 'Happily Solved'

AB221503 Paris AFP in French 1529 GMT 21 May 83

[Text] Ndjamena, 21 May (AFP) — The border problem between Nigeria and Chad has been "happily solved," the AGENCE TCHADIENNE DE PRESSE [ATP] stated on Saturday, quoting sources close to the Ndjamena government.

This "solution," a result of negotiations between Chadian envoys and the Nigerian authorities in Lagos, was reported to the Cabinet by Chadian President Hissein Habre during a meeting on Thursday, ATP adds.

Quoting its source, ATP states that the border between Nigeria and Chad, which was closed by Nigeria following the incidents, should be reopened as "the most visible sign" to show that relations between Lagos and Ndjamena have returned to normal.

The closure of the border produced increases in Chadian market prices and a shortage of some basic consumer items, particularly gasoline, whose price per liter doubled in less than a week, observers in Ndjamena note. These observers note that the closure of the border also "penalized" Nigerian traders. The economic life of Maiduguri, a Nigerian town situated at the border between these two countries, depends on the trade between Lagos and Ndjamena. Nigeria, by virtue of its participation in peace talks for Chad, is somehow the "godfather" of Chad, writes ATP in its Saturday report. ATP feels that Chadians are "grateful" to Nigeria for having sent troops to Ndjamena on two occasions to "favor" the restoration of peace in Chad.

Nigerian troops were sent to Chad within the framework of the OAU for the first time in 1979 and the second time in 1982. They were withdrawn in June when Hissein Habre took power in Ndjamena.

"It is for these reasons that the authorities of the two countries chose to forget this short episode that Chadians have already forgotten," ATP concludes.

Habre Invited by Mengistu To Attend OAU Summit

AB210950 Paris AFP in French 0828 GMT 21 May 83

[Text] Ndjamena, 21 May (AFP) — Ethiopian head of state Lieutenant Colonel Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council, has addressed a message to Chadian President Hissein Habre informing him that "the Ethiopian Government and people are preparing to receive him in Addis Ababa" within the framework of the forthcoming 19th OAU summit (scheduled to take place from 6 to 11 June).

"Considering the unfortunate experiences on two occasions while trying to convene the summit, the peoples of Africa hope and expect that the next session will overcome the difficulties the OAU has been facing, the Ethiopian head of state noted in his message.

"Your Excellency's contribution to the joint effort of African heads of state will be of vital importance to the supreme interest of Africa's unity," Lieutenant Colonel Mengistu concluded.

Envoy Says Military Situation 'Unchanged'

AB221505 Paris AFP in English 1330 GMT 22 May 83

[Text] Libreville, May 22 (AFP) — The military situation in Chad remains unchanged with rebel forces operating about 200 kms (125 miles) around Faya-Largeau, the northern capital, according to Chadian envoy Mahamat Nouri.

Mr Nouri, who yesterday had talks here with Gabonese Prime Minister Leone Mebiame, said the Libyan-backed troops of ousted President Goukouni were between 180 and 220 kms (112 and 137 miles) from Faya-Largeau. He also denied rebel claims that Mr Goukouni's forces had captured the town briefly last weekend.

The Chadian envoy expressed satisfaction that the Ndjamena government of Hissein Habre had been recognised by a "large majority" of African countries since last year's second abortive OAU Tripoli summit in November. He noted that the Ndjamena government had been invited as the official Chadian delegation to the OAU summit scheduled for June 6 to 11.

Mr Nouri, who delivered a message from Mr Habre to Gabonese President Omar Bongo, said his visit here was in the framework of friendly relations between the two countries, and that it was "natural" that Mr Habre should keep his Gabonese counterpart informed of developments in Chad at a time when it was encountering "certain difficulties for its reconstruction."

Commentary on Role of New GUNT Cabinet

AB201052 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 19 May 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] As the saying goes: Better late than never! As we announced a few days ago, the cabinet reshuffle within the GUNT [Transitional National Union Government] has now gone into effect. The new government team has 20 members. This constitutes a profound change, since out of the 20 members, 14 are new faces. One thing should be noted immediately: The new cabinet reflects all political tendencies. All progressive political elements are effectively represented. Realism has, therefore, prevailed in the new GUNT.

Despite the fact that the government was restructured on the basis of political considerations and in agreement with the spirit and letter of the Lagos accord, it is a major departure from all preceding GUNT governments. In fact, the new government leadership is distinguished from its predecessors by its military, political and ideological cohesion — factors which were lacking in the past and whose absence was detrimental to the people with the arrival of the lackey Hissein Habre in Ndjamena.

This new GUNT has a heavy task — that of conducting the liberation war on the political, diplomatic, and military fronts. Since the new GUNT members enjoy an excellent political atmosphere and a favorable field of action, they have the task of organizing the revolutionary struggle on a sane, rational, and effective basis. In fact, it is not a problem of personality, since not everyone can be made a minister; nor does it mean that those who have been appointed to the decisionmaking body are better than those who were not appointed. Those who have been given positions of responsibility should not see them as a success for one person or group of persons. That should not be the case.

What is important is that comrades who have had the singular honor of being promoted to the forefront of national responsibility should have a broad outlook and be fully aware of their national duties. They should also live up to expectations in order to merit the confidence placed in them. From this fundamental prerequisite of our revolutionary struggle, the people's wish and power should always prevail. The only piece of advice that can be given to the new comrades in the GUNT — one which they themselves know very well — is that they should always act in the interest of the popular masses and in a direct line with the common struggle against the forces of evil and for the victory of the revolution and socialism.

Of course, the most beautiful girl in the world can only give what she has. The new government comes in response to the preoccupations of only part of the state and should be considered, in our opinion, as a government of action. In any case, what should gladden the hearts of all patriots is not the fact that this or that name is on the government list, but the fact that the reconstitution of the government machinery is a victory over the pessimism of our common enemies. What should also delight every revolutionary militant is that a new and general framework has been set up to gather, mobilize, and direct all political and military forces in order to deal a final blow to the agents of imperialism. Finally, what should be a relief for Chadians devoted to the revolutionary cause is that an extremely important step has been taken toward uniting the suffering people of Chad.

The formation of the new GUNT is an act of consolidation and a stimulus which will spur on all the courageous soldiers who, arms in hand, are fighting so that a popular, democratic, and socialist order can prevail. Let us all help our government to lead the people on the path of the total liberation of the Chadian people.

Bardai Says Goukouni Oueddei Visits POW's

AB200647 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 19 May 83

[Text] The number of prisoners captured from the national annihilation forces during the fierce battle at Ounianga continues to increase. According to one of our reporters at Ounianga, there are now 1,016 prisoners of war. This obviously worries the military and political authorities of the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT]. However, because of their belief in revolutionary principles and in respect for human beings, the revolutionary authorities have reserved the best treatment for their brothers who have been misled onto the path of reaction.

In this connection, Comrade Goukouni Oueddei visited the prisoners. He asked them to (?distinguish) between the terrorist gang led by bloodthirsty Hissein Habre and the revolutionary GUNT. [Words indistinct] Comrade Goukouni insisted above all on the need to retrain those brothers who have been captured in order to make them fit to serve within the ranks of the revolution. The GUNT is a responsible government and does not behave like the criminals in Ndjamena. It will not liquidate its prisoners even though they have a mistaken impression of who their true enemy is.

Bardai Says Dissent Results From Defeats

AB192123 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 19 May 83

[Text] The crushing defeat inflicted on the troops of the national annihilation forces by the National Liberation Army [ANL] will not soon be forgotten. The material and human losses are so considerable that they are resented within all the garrisons still under the control of the national annihilation forces. The men who sacrificed their lives in vain to defend an unscrupulous gang leader are, after all, mistaken Chadians whom the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] is trying to win over for the reconstruction of our dear fatherland.

We have learned that serious dissent has broken out at the Fada Garrison, where two antagonistic factions are fighting each other. On the one hand, there are 'last-ditchers' who want to die, and, on the other hand, there are those who want to go over to the ANL without preconditions. In fact, there is no agreement between the two factions, and a group is reportedly heading toward Faya-Largeau on a mission whose objective remains unclear. There is, however, no doubt that this group has the duty of strengthening Faya-Largeau, where the number of troops was

reduced following the recent battle at Ounianga.

Is it necessary to remind that group of suicide-prone elements that there is no need to sacrifice themselves? Is it necessary to call on them to display their political and military maturity by laying down their arms before it is too late?

Reacting to the recent battle at Ounianga, Comrade Kamougue, the vice president of the GUNT, extended his congratulations to the ANL fighters for defeating the antinational forces. I have learned of the event with great joy, he said, and I praise our valiant fighters for their courage and bravery. Long live our restored unity and mutual understanding.

GABON

Bongo Returns From Visit to Zaire 20 May

AB202102 Libreville Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 20 May 83

[Text] President El Hadj Omar Bongo left Kinshasa this morning for Franceville, where he presided over the inauguration of the Haut-Ogoue Company for the Promotion of Agriculture and Cattle Breeding this afternoon.

Minister Mebiane Returns From Ethiopia, U.S.

AB201241 Libreville Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 20 May 83

[Text] Prime Minister Leon Mebiane returned to Libreville yesterday following his visits to Ethiopia and the United States. He was in Addis Ababa to represent the head of state and Gabon at the activities marking the 25th anniversary of the creation of the Economic Commission for Africa. He later went to the United States on a private visit.

ZAIRE

Opposition Leader Will Not Return to Kinshasa

AB201032 Paris AFP in French 0841 GMT 20 May 83

[Text] Brussels, 20 May (AFP) — Nguza Karl-i-Bond, former Zairian prime minister now in exile in Belgium and spokesman for the Congolese Front for the Restoration of Democracy [FCD], which includes the majority of the Zairian opposition in Brussels, does not intend to return to Kinshasa to benefit from the amnesty granted on Thursday by President Mobutu Sese Seko to all Zairian opponents in exile abroad. That, at least, is what he hinted during a telephone conversation with AFP in Brussels today.

Before giving an official response, he hopes to consult his friends within the FCD. A meeting of the FCD is to take place in Brussels next week. Mr Nguza stressed that he was not a common law refugee, but that he is in self-imposed exile as a matter of principle.

"My personal response to President Mobutu's statement can be found in a book," he added. This book, which has been in preparation for 6 months, will be published in Brussels in about 2 weeks.

BENIN

President Receives Polish, Belgian Ambassadors

AB202200 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 20 May 83

[Excerpt] President Kerekou today received in audience at State House two foreign envoys, His Excellency Jurasz Witold, Polish ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary, and His Excellency Herman Matsaert, Belgian ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary. After his audience with the president, the Polish ambassador explained to Sylvester (Jemawu) the reason for his visit to the head of state.

[Begin recording] [Witold in English fading into French translation] The purpose of the visit was to say goodbye to the president and to thank him for his kindness extended to me during my almost 5-year accreditation to your beautiful country.

[Jemawu] Can you give the results of your mission to the People's Republic of Benin?

[Witold] When I first came in 1978, I thought that I could do better, but I could not completely succeed for the simple reason that our country went through a crisis, one that you are well aware of, and this crisis made it impossible to achieve all the set objectives. However, we have very good political and cultural relations with your country, and I know that when I return to Poland, I will continue to work toward the consolidation of our relations. [end recording]

GHANA

Quainoo Denies Arms Purchase From Libya

AB220805 Accra Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 22 May 83

[Excerpts] The army commander, Brigadier Arnold Quainoo, has stated that the Ministry of Defense has not made any purchases whatsoever of arms and ammunition from Libya. He further stated that the ministry has received arms and ammunitions from Libya as outright gifts made in the spirit of friendship by the government and people of Libya.

He added that crude oil worth $17.7 million, food, and drugs have also been received as gifts from Libya in the same spirit of friendship and solidarity.

Brig Quainoo was speaking to a Ghana Broadcasting Corporation correspondent in an interview on allegations that the government was spending large sums of money on arms and ammunition purchases, especially from Libya. He disclosed that since the 31 December 1981, the Ministry of Defense has purchased ammunition to the total value of $823,506.20 from Spain and Belgium and explained that these purchases were necessary to replenish stocks already expended. The army commander concluded by inviting the Association of Professional Bodies and the National Union of Ghana Students to ascertain the facts fror themselves from the Bank of Ghana.

IVORY COAST

Arab League Secretary General Visits 20 May

AB211322 Abidjan Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 21 May 83

[Text] The secretary of the Arab League, Chadli Klibi, arrived in the country last night for talks with Ivorian authorities. He is at this moment at a luncheon offered by the head of state with whom he will surely discuss Arab-African relations. He leaves for Tunis after that.

Al-Qadhdhafi Involvement in Upper Volta Attacked

AB200943 Abidjan Fraternite Matin in French 20 May 83 p 28

[Editorial: "The Hand of Al-Qadhdhafi ..."]

[Text] Soon after the announcement of the events which took place in Ouagadougou on 16 May, more than one experienced observer of African politics during recent months saw Al-Qadhadhafi's hand in it. News from Upper Volta confirms this assumption.

Libya's charge d'affaires in Upper Volta, (Ibrahim O. al-Hamani), was asked by the authorities in Ouagadougou on Wednesday to leave the country within 48 hours. Therefore, as of 1200 GMT today, Mr (al-Hamani) should be out of the country that "the champion of subversion," during his visit to Ouagadougou on 30 April, called a "friendly country," a country whose revolution and progress he claimed to support resolutely.

During this visit, Mr al-Qadhdhafi, who expressed "his full admiration for the Upper Voltan leaders," pledged to "strengthen his alliance with this revolutionary country."

Today, one understands what this word admiration means to Al-Qadhdhafi: fertile land for his subversive activities.

Concerning the phrase: "strengthen his alliance with this revolutionary country," he meant: satellite state.

During this same trip, which took him to Benin and Upper Volta, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi pledged to permanently incite African armies to join the masses in sowing chaos.

The changes that have occurred within the People's Salvation Council [CSP] constitute another failure for Mr "Troublemaker" and provide additional evidence that all peace-loving countries which want stability should avoid all contacts with Al-Qadhdhafi's Libya.

Latest reports state that calm has returned to the country and, according to military sources, the members of the CSP who rebelled on Monday night at Camp Guillaume Ouedraogo in the center of Ouagadougou surrendered to the authorities on Wednesday at about 2300.

The borders have been reopened and the Ouagadougou airport, which was closed to traffic during the first hours of the events, has resumed its activities. The former prime minister, Captain Thomas Sankara, who was arrested on Monday, is being held in an undisclosed garrison outside Ouagadougou. According to the same sources, there was no bloodshed during the events.

LIBERIA

Sierra Leone Refugees Fleeing Across Border

AB202119 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 20 May 83

[Text] In the wake of political violence in neighboring Sierra Leone, waves of refugees have been crossing the border into Liberia. The Liberian leader ordered today the despatch of joint security teams to the border headed by the Army chief of staff, Lieutenant General Henry Dunbar, to look into the situation.

The Sierra Leonean refugees are estimated at over 200. Meanwhile, the Liberian Government has provided a number of tents, medical supplies, and food for the refugees who have taken shelter from the acts of political aggression in Sierra Leone.

Refugee Tells of Violence

AB230853 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0655 GMT 23 May 83

[Text] A traveler just from the Pujehun East constituency in Sierra Leone, Mr Andrew Gray, has given more details about the violence in eastern Sierra Leone which has caused over 1,000 refugees to cross into Liberia.

Mr Gray, who is from the side of the violence, told LINA [Liberian Press Agency] that they were plunged into the present state because of the quarrel which has developed between supporters of former parliamentary members Mana Kpaka and Solomon (?Gambi) of Pujehun East constituency in Sierra Leone.

George Gray, who arrived in Liberia on Friday, said beginning Wednesday, May 18, a group of armed men loyal to Mana Kpaka raided their homes and discriminately shot several persons dead. He said other armed men loyal to Mr Kpaka set enemy houses on fire while others looted.

Men, women, and children of the Bomey Camp, Mr Gray said, then fled through the (?beach) and later traveled 4 days across the border into Liberia.

George Gray has been a strong supporter of ex-parliamentarian Mana Kpaka until last year when he and other constituents voted in his disfavor. He said Mr Kpaka has failed to fulfill the wishes of his constituents after serving 20 years in parliament.

Mr Gray then praised the Liberian Government for the hospitality accorded them since their arrival in the country and he later promised that they would abide by the laws of Liberia during their stay.

Doe Statement Urges OAU Summit Attendance

AB201830 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1600 GMT 20 May 83

[Text] The Liberian leader, People's Redemption Council's Dr Samuel Doe, has said that all nations of the OAU should attend the ensuing summit of the organization in Addis Ababa. Issuing a statement at the Executive Mansion today, Dr Doe said his position is based on the understanding that the forthcoming meeting in Addis Ababa is planned to find a solution both to the Saharan and Chadian issues among others. He said that the OAU failed in two attempts to convene its regular session in 1982 because of difficulty in resolving the Chadian and Saharan issues.

"It is my view, therefore, that all parties should not insist on preconditions for attending the meeting at this time," Dr Doe said, "in order to allow the organization to deliberate the questions in an atmosphere of reason and thereby find lasting solutions to these problems and preserve the unity of our cherished organization." Dr Doe stressed that any move to discourage the convening of the meeting could be considered as an act of sabotage against Africa's most vital interests. He, therefore, called on member states to attend that meeting at which time they will adequately focus on the issues at stake and make a decision for the survival of our organization and the unity and solidarity of the African peoples.

Doe Revokes Commerce Ministry Decision

AB202100 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1900 GMT 20 May 83

[Text] The head of state and chairman of the People's Redemption Council [PRC], Dr Samuel Kanyon Doe, has revoked the decision of the minister of commerce, industry, and transportation to restrict 33 businessness in the country to only Liberians. The head of state announced his decision following a meeting of the PRC at the Capitol in Monrovia this morning. Dr Doe said this move to revoke this ministry's decision was made after the council had thoroughly reviewed the implications of this decision on the nation's commercial activities. He said the council and the cabinet will meet to discuss details of this policy before any aspect of it can be reintroduced in Liberia. The Liberian leader noted that when the pronouncement was made by the Commerce Ministry early this year, he filed reservation over the decision to the minister on 31 January 1983. In his letter to the minister, D. Gborbde Dwanyen, the head of state observed that such a major decision received neither his endorsement nor that of the council, thus rendering it impossible for them to offer an explanation of the subject when they are asked. Secondly, the head of state said: It is our belief that while this idea may seem necessary, it appears inexpedient to undertake such an expensive reform without adequate technical and financial preparation. He also stressed that the question of our open door policy and free enterprise system comes into serious focus as a result of this move as this tries to detract investors.

In view of the adverse effect the ministry's decision is currently having on business transactions, particularly in the area of wholesaling, the head of state said the action is immediately

revoked pending a review by the council and he authorizes all business houses in the country to resume normal activities.

MALI

Upper Voltan Justice Minister Visits, Comments

AB201635 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 20 May 83

[Text] General Moussa Traore this morning received Upper Voltan Minister of Justice Mrs Marie-Louise Nignan, who is on a visit to our country at the invitation of her counterpart, Lieutenant Colonel Issa Ongoiba. Their talks centered on the good level of cooperation which exists between Mali and Upper Volta. Upon leaving the presidential office, Mrs Nignan confirmed this fact to our reporter, Sidi Diawara.

[Begin Nignan recording] This bilateral cooperation is necessary not only because Upper Volta and Mali are brother countries, but because they are countries that resemble one another so much that they are inseparable, in the same way that brothers are inseparable. I was very happy that the head of state emphasized this aspect that unites us. He pointed out in particular the common factors uniting us rather than the uncommon factors and that is very important.

Personally, I think it was altogether normal for me to call on the head of state. It was a courtesy visit to the leader of this country, Mali, which is a sister republic of Upper Volta. [end recording]

Mauritanian Interior Minister Arrives in Bamako

AB201316 Paris AFP in French 1133 GMT 20 May 83

[Text] Bamako, 20 May (AFP) — Mauritanian Interior Minister Ahmedou Ould Abdallah arrived in Bamako yesterday evening for a 4-day visit to Mali. Ould Abdallah, who was met on arrival by Malian Interior Minister Lieutenant Colonel Abderhamane Maiga, stated that his visit falls within the framework of "the periodic consultations that take place at all levels" between Malian and Mauritanian leaders.

On the demarcation of the frontier between Mali and Mauritania, Ould Abdallah asserted that "we are quite close to a resolution of this problem due to the atmosphere of understanding and unity which exists between the two countries."

NIGERIA

Support Given to Proposed OAU June Summit

AB210938 Lagos NAN in English 0840 GMT 21 May 83

[Text] Lagos, May 20 (NAN) — Nigeria supports the convening of the summit of the OAU in Addis Ababa, the director of inter-African affairs in the Ministry of External Affairs, Mr Emmanuel Fowora said in Lagos today. Mr Fowora said that the minister, Professor Ishaya Audu, had been making efforts to get African heads of state to attend the meeting.

If the meeting is not held, its not because we don't want it to be held, adding Nigeria stands for the continuity of the OAU, Mr Fowora declared. He said further that Nigeria stood by the recommendation of the OAU Committee of 12 which called on all the African states to attend the meeting.

Nigeria's support for the OAU meeting comes amid calls for the postponment of the summit. Senegal said early this week that it would not attend the Addis Ababa meeting if the SDAR participates.

Nigeria, CSSR Express Satisfaction With Ties

AB210943 Lagos NAN in English 0847 GMT 21 May 83

[Text] Lagos, May 20, (NAN) — Nigeria and Czechoslovakia today expressed satisfaction at the relations between the two countries during a two-day meeting of officials of both countries in Lagos.

The minister of external affairs, Professor Ishya Audu, led the Nigerian delegation while the Czechoslovakian foreign minister, Mr Bohuslav Chnoupek, led his country's delegation.

An official of the Ministry of External Affairs told the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) that both countries explored further areas of cooperation.

SIERRA LEONE

Government Denies Political Unrest, Refutes BBC

AB230744 Freetown Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 23 May 83

[Text] Government yesterday issued a statement refuting a report carried by the BBC which said that there was political unrest in the country. The statement reads: The news on the BBC yesterday morning on 22 May about political unrest in Sierra Leone has come as a complete surpirse to the government and people of Sierra Leone. The government wishes to announce that there is no political unrest in Sierra Leone, contrary to what was stated in some foreign news broadcasts, in particular the BBC. The government is not aware that there are people fleeing from Sierra Leone into neighboring states as political refugees. In any event, the Government of Sierra Leone wishes to state that in accordance with the principles governing friendly relations between states, it would have been informed by the authorities of any foreign state of the influx of refugees from Sierra Leone as was stated in the BBC report. The Government of Sierra Leone has not received any such report. Life in the country could not be more normal as the country as a whole approaches the farming season, the statement concluded.

First Iranian Ambassador Presents Credentials
AB200849 Freetown Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 20 May 83

[Text] The first ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Sierra Leone, (Baruuz Sedghaie), has presented his letters of credence to President Siaka Stevens at State House. In his address at the ceremony, the new envoy said that the two countries enjoy many common views on various international issues as well as the expansion of mutual relationships, particularly in recent months during which effective steps were taken to consolidate the solidarity and development of their national interests.

He affirmed that his country attached priority to the relations with Third World countries, particularly Africa. He hoped that the political, economic and cultural relations existing between Iran and Sierra Leone would be expanded to all fields for the mutual benefit of both states.

Ambassador (Sedghaie) explained to President Stevens that his country's foreign policy is based on peaceful coexistence and mutual respect toward all countries which agree to its declared foreign policy. The envoy said that his country has always condemned policies of racial discrimination as well as various plots of the South African regime. He pointed out that Iran has common views with African countries on decolonization and liberation of the continent. He expressed his country's wish for a strong OAU that could act as a challenge to external interference and exploitation. The ambassador wished Dr Stevens and the people of this country victory and prosperity.

Receiving the letters of credence of the new Iranian envoy, President Siaka Stevens was happy to note that the bonds of friendship and cooperation developed between the two countries have already gathered momentum. The head of state recalled the recent visit to Iran by the foreign minister, during which a memorandum of understanding between Iran and Sierra Leone setting out the framework for meaningful cooperation in the political, economic, and cultural fields was signed. Dr Stevens said that the two republics share several aspirations, adding that as members of the Nonaligned Movement, they continue to work assiduously for the advancement of the people of the Third World. It is our belief that world peace could only be attained when the less fortunate of our people share equally in the fruits of development, the head of state maintained.

He expressed deep appreciation to the ambassador for the educative information on the policies of his government, noting that as a Third World country, Sierra Leone did understand the objectives of the Iranian Government and people. President Stevens wished the government every success in its efforts to build a new Iran based on justice, peace and equality.

In reference to the Iran-Iraq war, Dr Stevens recalled efforts made at the nonaligned summit in New Delhi, India, last March, to bring this unfortunate war to an early end and reiterated the appeal made at that meeting for both parties in the conflict to do everything possible to end this unhappy chapter in the history of the relations of two sister states.

He extended warmest felicitations and best wishes for President Seyyed 'Ali Khame'i's well-being and for the prosperity of the Iranian people. President Stevens wished Ambassador (Sedghaie) every success in his assignment, and assured him of the support and understanding of the government and people of Sierra Leone at all times.

Twenty-five-year-old Ambassador (Baruuz Sedghaie), who is married and will be resident in Freetown, was head of the Political and Ideological Department of the Iranian Armed Forces and lecturer in the Theological Univeristy of the holy city of Qom. A holder of a diploma in classics and foreign languages, Mr (Sedghaie) was also a research student in philosophy and Arabic literature. He was accompanied to State House by the first secretary in the embassy, H. Mohammadi, and the third secretary, B. Hadzadeh. The ceremony was attended by First Vice President S.I. Koromah, acting Second Vice President A.B. Karama, Foreign Minister Dr Abdoulaye Conteh, Cabinet ministers, Secretary to the President Mr G. Arim, and top civil servants.

UPPER VOLTA

Security Minister, Parents Discuss School Unrest
AB202125 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 20 May 83

[Text] Following this morning's events in Ouagadougou, the minister of interior and security received the leaders from the parents' associations of private and public schools. The communique issued after the meeting says, in substance:

In view of the unrest in the capital's schools this morning, Interior and Security Minister Major Harouna Tarnarda received the representatives of the parents' associations this afternoon at 1530 in the presence of Minister of Education Emmanuel Dadjouari.

The aim of the meeting was to inform the schoolchildren's parents of the situation prevailing in the secondary schools of the capital, and of the government's attitude in view of these events. It was also meant to examine with the parents the measures likely to restore calm.

The long debates that followed resulted in these conclusions: The minister of interior and security reaffirms the government's desire to do everything possible to avoid a test of strength and radical measures against the schoolchildren who, as both the government and the parents acknowledge, are subject to manipulation. The schoolchildren's parents condemn these maneuvers by shady politicians who disregard the interests of the children and use them for unconfessed designs. The delegates present at the meeting appeal to all parents and leaders of the various associations to join forces to assist in the rapid restoration of order to the schools. The minister of interior and security calls on the common sense of parents and children. However, he underlines that order and the security of people and property remain guaranteed.

Meanwhile, the minister of education, arts, and culture will convene a meeting of the delegates of school children attending

secondary schools in Ouagadougou tomorrow, Saturday, 21 May 1983, at 0800 sharp at the Institute for Pedagogical Research. All delegates are required to attend the meeting.

'Imminent' CSP Meeting Seen as Showdown

AB211340 Paris AFP in English 1321 GMT 21 May 83

[By Jerome Mainguet]

[Text] Ouagadougou, May 21 (AFP) — The fate of Upper Volta's military rulers is likely to be thrashed out a showdown between the different factions at an imminent meeting of the People's Salvation Council (CSP), the supreme body in the country, informed sources here believe.

The balance of power between the factions has been upset by this week's arrest of Prime Minister Thomas Sankara, considered the leader of the more radical soldiers among the group which seized power last November.

Head of State Major Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo moved against Captain Sankara and Major Jean-Baptiste Lingani, secretary-general of the CSP Secretariat, in a purge of unidentified CSP members accused of "irresponsible behavior, statements and actions."

Capt Sankara has since been excluded from the CSP and, according to informed sources, is being held at Ouahigouya, 185 km (115 miles) north of Ouagadougou. Maj Lingani is believed to be held at Dori, 350 km (220 miles) north of the capital.

The exact make-up of the CSP is still something of a mystery. It is thought to consist of one-third officers, one-third NCO's and one-third privates.

Some of Maj Ouedraogo's problems with Capt Sankara seemed to stem from the captain's increasing approval of Libya's Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and North Korea, and for his growing criticism of Upper Volta's traditional friends, such as France, which he berated as being "imperialist."

Diplomats here said the leaders of several neighboring countries, including Ivory Coast's President Felix Houphouet-Boigny, Colonel Seyni Kountche of Niger and General Gnassingbe Eyadema of Togo, had warned Maj Ouedraogo not to let himself be seen off by the young pro-Libyan officer.

According to well-informed sources here, the Ouedraogo faction, backed by a group of officers who were not members of the CSP — including Chief of Staff Colonel Some Yorian Gabriel — were concerned about the contents of Libyan "aid" arriving in the capital in a mini-airbrigade. Some of the aid was certainly medicines and food for the drought-stricken landlocked West African state, but several sources suggested that the Libyan planes were also delivering arms. These were destined for a paratroop unit at Po, in the south of the country, near the border with Ghana, which was once under Capt Sankara's command. Army headquarters was not told about these shipments.

Some reports suggested that Libya delivered a shipment of Brasilian-made machine-gun carriers during the night hours, while the country was under curfew, and that these had been distributed among pro-Sankara units without the knowledge of the chief of staff.

Maj Ouedraogo was also caught short by a "surprise" visit here by Col al-Qadhdhafi on April 30 and May 1, a visit which was arranged by Capt Sankara. Capt Sankara's first visit abroad as prime minister was to Libya.

It now seems that the CSP will hold a general assembly as early as Monday, when the two sides will each claim to be the "legitimate" faction. The Ouedraogo camp argues that Capt Sankara broke the rules by going it alone without formulating policy within the council. On the other hand, the Sankara faction will maintain that the major was out of line when he arrested the two best-known CSP members without seeking approval from the council, and relying on officers who were themselves not council members. Capt Sankara's supporters are likely to insist that the captain and Maj Lingani take part in the general assembly and that any decisions be voted on. Some of the captain's supporters have threatened trouble unless they get their way.

For the time being, it is hard to say where the balance of power lies, since Capt Sankara is said to have control of the council's Permanent Secretariat but not of the General Assembly, which has a majority in favor of Maj Ouedraogo.

Meanwhile, the Army is reported to be in disarray as a result of the latest developments. Several senior officers had already been retired following the November coup, and fears have been expressed that this normally peaceful Sahel state, one of the poorest countries in Africa, could fall victim to a dispute in the Army that could lead to civil war.

Minister, Others Reportedly Arrested 21 May

AB220740 Paris AFP in English 0727 GMT 22 May 83

[Text] Ouagadougou, May 22 (AFP) — Further arrests of leading figures in Upper Volta were reported here last night by informed sources who said the detentions were apparently linked with a demonstration in the capital's streets on Friday by secondary school pupils.

The schoolchildren were protesting against the May 17 arrest of Prime Minister Thomas Sankara and his dismissal from the ruling military People's Salvation Council. The students damaged European-owned vehicles, most of them at or near the French Embassy. The sources said the most prominent of those arrested yesterday were Youth and Sports Minister Ibrahima Kone and trade union leader Soumane Toure, leader of the formerly banned Voltan Trades Union Confederation (C.S.V.).

The C.S.V. is one of the country's four central labour groupings, and is the most militant. It was banned last year towards the end of the regime of Colonel Saye Zerbo, and Mr Toure was detained. After last November's coup, the new Salvation Council freed him and restored the CSV's legal rights.

The other people arrested yesterday were said to be the leader of

the secondary schoolteachers' union, Etienne Traore, the principal secretary at the Education Ministry, Ba Sambo, and a secondary school headmaster, Adama Toure. All the arrests were made at the house of Adama Toure, the sources said. Most of those detained, including Sumane Toure, belong to the Marxist Patriotic League for Development.

Head of State Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo implicitly accused the league on Friday of "manipulating" the students for that day's protest march here.

There was no immediate official confirmation of the arrests.

CSP Communique on Arrests

AB221418 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1245 GMT 22 May 83

["Press communique" issued by the People's Salvation Council on 22 May in Ouagadougou on the arrest of Minister of Youth and Sports Ibrahima Kone and other prominent people in Ouagadougou on 21 May]

[Text] Following the events of 17 May and through the actions and maneuvers that followed, the Peoples Salvation Council [CSP] was able to determine to which point some people had remained deaf. It is true that there is none more deaf than he who does not want to listen to public advice, and on many occasions the CSP, which does not take sides for or against any group of people, thought it wise to make everyone understand that it will maintain this responsible choice because it believes that in it lies the only way to Upper Volta's reconciliation and salvation.

Being very concerned, the CSP, through its chairman, clearly pointed out that it knew who was behind who in the sterile and irresponsible agitation of the children. They are the same people who used Captain Sankara yesterday and who today want to use our young brothers to satisfy their ambitions. The CSP stated clearly that the ideas and ideologies of all these persons were not its major concern. The people to whose education it is devoting itself, the people it wants to bring into awareness, will take it upon themselves to render justice to the nationalists, sincere and worthy Upper Voltans of all groups.

In spite of this frankness and appeal in favor of the unity of all honest citizens, in spite of its solemn and responsible warning, sinister individuals known to the CSP refused to play fair. As it was announced yesterday, the CSP has assumed its responsibilities. It thought it had talked enough and called for honesty and for the responsibility of all. Once again, the CSP wants to work in calmness and it will do everything to ensure this.

Consequently, it is out of the question that people we all know, who certainly constitute a minority of activitists and a minute section of the population, should continue to disturb the existence of millions of Upper Voltans in their quest for power which is with the sole aim of experimenting in theories about which they want to be taken for authorities, but which they unfortunately cannot master better than anyone else — better still, which they do not even live any better than you and I.

In its determination to expose and to fight all opportunists, the CSP has decided that, after attempting to make itself understood in all frankness, the time has come to act in line with its convinctions, its declarations, and in conformity to the people's aspirations. It is thus that we note with bitterness the deliberate choice of some notorious and unrepentant activists to ignore these reiterated, solemn calls and warnings — particularly its call on 20 May 1983.

Thus, the CSP had decided to hit hard. Since the arrest of Capt Sankara and Maj Langani, some people have doubled their efforts to (?take advantage) of a compromised situation. Yesterday's demonstration and some acts of vandalism which they masterminded are flagrant proof of this. The CSP remained level-headed and refused to respond to the provocation, consoled in its decision by the reserved and indeed angry attitude of the people. The demonstration that they wanted to be historic was a lamentable failure. Faced with this popular verdict, instead of making due amends, our sleeping partners continued their aggressive policy.

Therefore, on Saturday, 21 May 1983, at about 1030, the following persons met to plan a new strategy. They are Adama Toure, director general of second degree education; Soumane Toure, secretary general of the Upper Voltan Trade Union Confederation:; Etiene Traore, secretary general of the only Upper Voltan union of teachers of secondary and higher education:; Issouf Ba Sambo, permanent under secretary of the Ministry of National Education, arts and culture; Mamane Bankango, a teacher at the Kawa secondary school; and Ibrahima Kone, minister of youth and sports. The meeting took place at Zogana, in the house of Adama Toure.

For those who know these men, their reputation, their union, and their government responsibilities, their meeting gives cause for thought. They have made agitation — especially academic, student, and union unrest — their principal tools for action.

In the face of reports of an imminent student demonstration, the nation's highest authorities confronted and informed the minister of national education, arts, and culture — who tried to pretend that it was only a rumor. At the height of the demonstrations, this same minister, alerted and cornered, could not give any convincing proof of his innocence in this affair. It was, therefore, logical for him to alert his comrade in arms to organize an urgent meeting of the ringleaders.

Concerning the minister of youth and sports, he gave striking proof of his ability to organize and mobilize some of the youth during the meeting at Bobodioulasso. It is true that the prime minister put 3 million CFA francs at his disposal.

While giving you this explanation, I would like to go back a little to say that some petitions were seized during searches conducted at the houses of these very people who attended the meeting. I will give you the full contents of this petition. It is signed by the Upper Voltan patriots and democrats:

"It is with great dismay and a deep indignation that the Upper Voltan patriots and democrats learned of the arrest of Capt Thomas Sankara and of Maj Lingani. It must be acknowledged

that Capt Sankara represented a great hope to the Upper Voltan people, and they showed a frank and selfless love for him and warmly manifested this.

Considering that since 7 November 1982, Upper Volta has made hope its watchword thanks to the concrete action of the CSP within which Capt Sankara and Maj Lingani were for the Voltan people the symbol of dignity and hope; considering that the arrest of Capt Sankara and of Maj Lingani has caused a great deception and a cruel dispair among the people who have not been given any convincing explanations for the motives behind the arrest; considering that these arrests create for the masses and at the national level a situation which if allowed to continue, can only lead to other regrettable situations with unforeseen and surely nefarious results for the Upper Voltan people, we, the undersigned Upper Voltan patriots and democrats, ask for the pure and simple liberation of Capt Thomas Sankara and Maj Lingani for the dignity and happiness of the Upper Voltan people. Ouagadougou, 19 May 1983."

A draft petiition signed by Upper Voltan women reads:

"Mr President: We women of Upper Volta have been strongly indignant at the arrest of Thomas Sankara, Jean -Baptiste Lingani, and their friends in the CSP. To us, Thomas Sankara, Jean-Baptiste Lingani, and their friends personify the deepest aspirations of the Upper Voltan popular masses. If, as you have stated on many occasions, the sole objective of the CSP is to satisfy the needs of the Upper Voltan people and only them, then we women, an intergral part of these people, do not understand the arrest of Thomas Sankara, Jean-Baptiste Lingani, and their friends without consulting the people.

We women of Upper Volta condemn your arbitrary action and call for the release of Thomas Sankara, Jean-Baptiste Lingani, and their friends who are indispensable to the Upper Voltan people, and demand their immediate release and their reinstatement within the CSP — Women of Upper Volta."

Dear listeners: Here are the explanations that we can give you following the announcements of arrests of some persons. The CSP reminds everyone that political activities are suspended. The only framework of action remains the minimal platform set up by the CSP. The program of action presented to the people on 7 May 1983 concerns, and is binding on all honest sons of this country without individual or political considerations. Outside of this context, any attempt at sabotage or to set up cells will be repressed. It is because of the concern to avoid any excess that the above-mentioned persons were arrested.

Pro-Government Demonstration Held

AB230758 Paris AFP in English 0733 GMT 23 May 83

[Text] Ouagadougou, May 23 (AFP) — A counter-demonstration by club-wielding supporters of Upper Volta's military regime ran the gauntlet here yesterday of a hail of stones and bottles from sympathisers of disgraced Premier Thomas Sankara, who was arrested last Tuesday and dismissed from the ruling People's Salvation Council.

Police moved in to protect the pro-government marchers as they made their way from the capital's central square along Independence Avenue to the presidential palace, where head of state Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo was at work in his office. He came out to greet the demonstrators, but made no statement.

The several hundred demonstrators carried banners with anti-communist slogans. They distributed leaflets urging support for Major Ouedraogo in the defense of democratic freedoms. They were assailed by groups of youths demanding the release of Captain Sankara. Reliable witnesses said the youths were being supervised by militants of the Marxist Patriotic League for Development (LIPAD).

A number of LIPAD members and sympathisers were arrested on Saturday, including Youth and Sports Minister Ibrahima Kone and prominent trade unionist Soumane Toure, head of the most active and radical of the west African state's four labour union confederations. They were accused of mounting a demonstration on Friday by secondary school pupils to protest against Capt Sankara's detention. Prominent in yesterday's pro-government demonstration were Foreign Minister Michel Kafando and Labour and Civil Service Minister Jean Bado.

They were accompanied by a large turnout of Upper Volta's tribal chiefs.

Rumors Cause 'Excitement'; Curfew Unchanged

AB202130 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 20 May 83

[Text] Rumors about the curfew hours caused some excitement among the inhabitants of Ouagadougou this afternoon. In this regard, we assure you that there is nothing new and that the curfew hours remain unchanged, that is, from 0100 to 0500.

ANGOLA

Dos Santos Returns to Luanda From USSR Visit

MB210638 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 21 May 83

[Excerpt] Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, returned home yesterday after a 4-day friendly working visit to the Soviet Union.

MPLA Official on U.S. Policy, Economic Situation

MB201431 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 20 May 83

[Text] In an interview given to the youth newspaper of the Democratic Republic of Angola, Comrade Roberto de Almeida, secretary of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee in charge of the ideological department, said that since the Reagan administration came to power in 1981, a wave of violence has been mounted against the People's Republic of Angola.

In the interview, published the day before yesterday, the secretary of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee for the Ideological Department called attention to the sympathy the U.S. Administration has toward the policy of Pretoria and the escalation of aggressive acts against Angola.

Comrade Roberto de Almeida also mentioned that various key points of the national plan for this year are part of an emergency program. These points include the fields of education, public health, food supply, production of construction material, and an increase in coffee production. The realization of these projects depends mainly on strengthening the party, which has already started to set up more grassroots organizations in the countryside and to recruit more workers into the party, the party official said in conclusion.

Mozambique Minister Seeks Closer Transport Ties

MB200928 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 20 May 83

[Text] The Mozambique minister of ports and land transport, Alcantara Santos, who arrived in our country on Wednesday, said in Benguela yesterday that bilateral relations between Angola and Mozambique in the field of transport and communications are below the desired level and that the two peoples and governments would like to see more cooperation in this field.

Alcantara Santos, who was speaking to the national media, pointed out that the talks he is holding in Angola fall within the framework of the desire of the two peoples and parties to further strengthen cooperation and mutual understanding in the bilateral field and in the field of the Southern African Development Coordination Conference.

During his stay in Benguela Province, the Mozambique minister visited the installations of Lobito Port and Benguela Railways. Yesterday, Minister Alcantara Santos was also scheduled to visit Namibe Province, where he will today tour the mining harbor and the installations of Mocamedes Railways.

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UNCLAS 5U/BBC

Forest Resources Agreement Signed With Cuba

MB201505 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 20 May 83

[Text] Yesterday in Luanda, the Ministry of Agriculture signed a cooperation agreement in the field of forest resources with the State Committee for Economic Cooperation of the Republic of Cuba. The agreement, signed by Graciano Mande, the Angolan deputy prime minister of agriculture for forest resources, and Julio Cesar Balmaseda, the Cuban vice-minister of agriculture for human resources, provides for joint promotion of the development of the exploitation and reforestation of timber areas in the municipalties of (Buco-zau) and (Landa), in the Angolan province of Cabinda.

In accordance with the document, the Angolan side will undertake an investment program for exploitation of timber for agricultural and industrial purposes on the basis of the conditions of the agreement [words indistinct] and to be finalized by judicial officials from both sides. The document points out that during the first 3 years covered by this agreement, the program calls for 100,000 cubic meters of timber production per annum, and the efficient management and production of timber will be carried out through the supply of equipment, spare parts, technical personnel, and technical instruction by Cuba.

Corrections to Visit of SRV Delegation

In the items published in the Southern Africa section of the 16-20 May Middle East and Africa DAILY REPORTs concerning the visit by a SRV Communist Party delegation, the name of the delegation head was incorrectly given as "Xuan Thuy." It should be changed throughout to "Vu Quang."

The following additional correction pertains to the item headlined "Xuan Thuy-Led Delegation Ends Visit" published in the 19 May Middle East and Africa DAILY REPORT, page U 1, first paragraph, from line one:

[Excerpts] The delegation of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV], led by Vu Quang, member of the Central Committee and secretary for foreign relations of the party, which has been in our country since last Thursday, left Luanda today for the Republic of the Congo. Prior to the departure of the Vietnamese delegation, the final communique was read at the 4th of February International Airport. (adding paragraph, changing processing indicator from "Text" to "Excerpts")

LESOTHO

Jonathan Pays 6-Day Official Visit to DPRK

For KCNA coverage of the 6-day visit by Prime Minister Leabua Jonathan to the DPRK, including reportage on his meeting with Kim Il-song, see the North Korea section of the 17 May Asia & Pacific DAILY REPORT.

Conditions Set for Remaining Taiwanese

MB201440 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 20 May 83

[Text] The acting minister of foreign affairs and the minister of education, sports, and culture, the Honorable B.A. Tlelase, says the Chinese nationals who left Lesotho before or on 20 May were only diplomats, and their departure was specifically in accordance with the operations of the Geneva Convention.

Replying to an urgent question in the National Assembly this morning, the Honorable Tlelase said the rest of the Chinese community, particularly the businessmen, had not been given any deadline to leave the country. They can stay in the country under two conditions: That they should seek and acquire permission to be Lesotho citizens, and that they should negotiate with their own government to look after their interests. As for those who have already applied for citizenship, their case will be considered and dealt with under the normal procedures by the Ministry of Interior. Allegations that the Chinese nationals have been ordered out of Lesotho following the severence of diplomatic links between Lesotho and the Republic of China he said, were without substance.

MOZAMBIQUE

Maputo Radio Reports South African Air Raid

MB231248 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 23 May 83

[Text] Fighter aircraft of the South African Air Force today strafed and bombed several areas of Matola, killing at least 4 people and wounding 24 others, all of them Mozambique civilians. According to a Mozambique military source, the South African planes strafed civilians and used several types of ammunition, particularly air-to-ground antipersonnel fragmentation rockets. The attack was carried out at about 0720 this morning, at a time when there was a great rush of people reporting for work.

People from different areas of Matola region told the Mozambique news agency AIM that they had all seen the aircraft at about the same time. The attack lasted for only a few minutes because the Mozambique Defense Forces promptly responded by opening fire with antiaircraft guns.

Among the people known to have died are two women, one of them pregnant, one child, and one factory worker. A number of residential buildings were totally destroyed.

According to reports gathered by AIM, the attack came against three areas, namely, the Matola Rio Bridge, the Fomento and Liberdade residential areas, and the central area of Matola, which is predominantly an industrial and business area. Radio Mozambique expects to give further details on the issue in the course of its broadcasts.

More on Maputo Raid

NC230727 Paris AFP in English 0724 GMT 23 May 83

[Text] Maputo, May 23 (AFP) — Warplanes of the South African Air Force attacked a suburb of the Mozambican capital, Maputo, during rush hour this morning, residents said. The residents, interviewed after arriving for work in Maputo, said between five and ten jet fighters flew low over the suburb of Matola, bombing and strafing.

One resident spoke of helicopters, although it could not immediately be confirmed that they had been used in the raid. There was no immediate word of casualties.

In Pretoria South African Defense Minister Magnus Malan said the Air Force had carried out attacks on the African National Congress (ANC) fighting against white minority rule in South Africa.

Matola is the place where in January 1981 South African commandos raided houses of ANC members in exile, killing at least 20 people. It is an industrial suburb about 10 kilometres (six miles) west of Maputo on the road to the South African border.

The Matola residents said the aircraft attacked about 7:15 a.m. (0515 GMT) as people were leaving for work. Civilians dived out of their cars for cover as the jets zoomed overhead.

There was no immediate official reaction from the Mozambican authorities to the raid.

Well-informed sources said there was a battery of anti-aircraft missiles near Matola, and it may have been this one which General Malan said had been "neutralised."

Diplomat Cited on Raid

MB230845 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0800 GMT 23 May 83

[Text] A Western diplomat in Maputo has confirmed this morning's South African Air Force strike on ANC targets in the Mozambique capital. The diplomat said witnesses had seen three jets fly overhead and a cloud of smoke in an area called Liberdade. The Mozambique news agency AIM says the raid occurred south of Maputo at 0520 this morning. The agency has provided no further details.

The Western diplomat said the Maputo government appeared to have moved most ANC activity to the north of the country, out of reach of South Africa planes. He said senior ANC strategist Joe Slovo, who plans most of the ANC sabotage attacks, had been in and out of Maputo in recent months.

Gabonese Envoy Arrives With Message for Machel

MB191754 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1400 GMT 19 May 83

[Text] Martin Bongo, special envoy of the Gabonese president, arrived in Maputo early this afternoon. Martin Bongo, who is also minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, is bearing a special message from the Gabonese head of state to President Samora Machel. The Gabonese foreign minister was welcomed on arrival at Maputo Internaitonal Airport by Valeriano Ferrao, secretary of state for foreign affairs.

SOUTH AFRICA

Materials on Blast at Air Force Building

Initial Reactions to Blast

MB201608 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1556 GMT 20 May 83

[Text] Pretoria, May 20, SAPA — An undisclosed number of people were killed and injured in an explosion on the parking level of the Pretoria building housing the SA Air Force headquarters this afternoon.

The minister of defense, General Magnus Malan, announced the explosion in Parliament during the closing minutes of the debate on his budget vote.

The blast, at about 1630, shattered windows in several stories of the building and in another building, Poyntons, where the SADF Directorate of Military Intelligence is housed.

Several cars outside the building were destroyed.

Police sealed off the entrance to the block in which the explosion occurred, and all entrances a block further back were closed to traffic.

Ambulances waited beyond a barbed wire barricade, while others were coming and going an hour after the explosion.

Debris littered the road and pavement for metres on each side.

General Malan said the explosion occured at 1632. The streets around the building had been cordoned off, and everything was under control.

He expressed his sympathy for the next of kin of those who died in the explosion, which he described as a "cowardly criminal deed in the communist war being waged against South Africa."

Mr Philip Myburgh, the chief opposition defense spokesman expressed the Progressive Federal Party's sympathy and said he hoped any injured people would recover quickly. "We must once again say violence is not the answer for South Africa. "We condemn violence as strongly as we can." He hoped those responsible for the explosion would be apprehended as soon as possible and punished accordingly.

Mr Koos van der Merwe, the Conservative Party's defence spokesman, expressed his party's regret and support of the SADF.

Mr Vause Raw, leader of the New Republic Party, said his immediate reaction was one of anger and contempt. He hoped that what came to those responsible would be quick, ruthless and permanent. "This is a certain way to unite the people of South Africa against the terrorists and against those who harbour, sympathise or give aid — direct or indirect — to them."

Prime Minister on Incident

MB210612 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 21 May 83

[Excerpts] A police spokesman in Pretoria says that 16 people were killed in the huge bomb explosion at Nedbank Square west of Church Square in Pretoria yesterday afternoon; 197 people were wounded. Our Pretoria news office reports that clearing-up operations at the scene of the blast are expected to last the entire weekend. The names of the people killed or wounded in the blast have not yet been released.

Streets west of Church Square in Pretoria which will remain closed today are Bosman Street across Church Street to Pretorius Street, Vermeulen Street from Bosman Street, from Schubart to Vermeulen Streets, from Church Street to Potgieter Street, and from Schubart to Pretorius Street. Police have made an urgent request to the public not to enter the area unnecessarily because that will only complicate their task.

The prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, says that it is with regret that all of South Africa has learned of the contemptible act of terrorism directed at innocent people and at the destabilization of the community. Mr Botha says on behalf of the government he would like to express his sympathies with the next of kin of those killed. He prays for those who are wounded for a speedy recovery.

The prime minister says in a statement that this action confirms once again that the country is dealing with a communist-inspired onslaught which is intense and in which there is no hesitation to kill innocent people. Mr Botha says the security forces are getting the situation under control, and no stone will be left unturned in bringing the culprits of the reprehensible crime to justice.

Police Report Injury Total

MB230920 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 23 May 83

[Text] The South African police have announced that 217 people were injured in the car bomb explosion in a crowded street of Pretoira at the end of last week. Earlier statements had put the number of injured at 188. A police spokesman said in Pretoria that after the blast, which had killed 17 people, an additional 29 cases of injury had been reported, but that in most cases the injuries had been slight.

Reported Involvement of ANC in Pretoria Bombing

No Direct Responsibility Claimed

MB211220 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 21 May 83

[Excerpt] The ANC has not, as is customary for it, claimed direct responsibility for the Pretoria blast. in a teleprinter message to ASSOCIATED PRESS in Johannesburg from the offices of the ANC in Lusaka, Zambia, the banned organization says it was aimed at a military target. Earlier, the minister of law and order, Mr le Grange, said that threats by the ANC leader earlier this year that this would be a year of violence could indicate that the ANC was responsible for the explosion.

The leader of the Progressive Federal Party, Dr van Zyl Slabbert, has strongly condemned the bomb blast. In a statement issued in Cape Town this morning, Dr Slabbert says the blast was a tragedy of major proportions. He says he is appalled at the loss of life and the number of people wounded and would like to extend his sympathy and condolences to all concerned. Dr Slabbert says international terrorism has already demonstrated that it is ineffective as a means to promote political change and instead is counterproductive. He says this kind of action must be condemned in the strongest possible terms.

ANC 'Indirectly' Claims Blast

NC211618 Paris AFP in English 1616 GMT 21 May 83

[Text] Harare, May 21 (AFP) — The African National Congress (ANC) of South Africa today indirectly claimed responsibility for yesterday's car bomb attack on the South African Air Force headquarters in Pretoria.

In a statement from its Lusaka, Zambia, office, the ANC said South Africa's military will be a target for future attacks.

Without categorically claiming responsibility, the statement said yesterday's explosion "was specifically directed at military establishments of the South Africa regime." The ANC statement also said that "the enemy casualties consist essentially of Air Force and military intelligence personnel."

Observers said this is in accord with the ANC's long-stated intention of only aiming violence at non-human strategic sites, such as power stations or railroads, or military or police personnel.

ANC officials in Lusaka said another statement may be issued later which would be more specific on the issue of responsibility for the attack.

The full text of the statement, issued by the ANC Department of Information and Publicity in Lusaka, reads as follows:

"Available evidence clearly shows that the attack which took place yesterday in the heart of Pretoria was specifically directed at military establishments of the South Africa regime. The enemy casualties consist essentially of Air Force and military intelligence personnel.

"The escalating armed struggle, which was imposed on us as a result of the intransigence and violence of the apartheid regime, will make itself felt among an increasing number of those who have chosen to serve in the enemy's forces of repression.

"This struggle, carried out by the people of South Africa and their army, Umhkonto we Sizwe (Spear of the Nation, the ANC's armed wing), is conducted within our country and will be won within the country. Whatever the enemy does, we are assured of victory."

More Such Actions 'Expected'

EA221510 Dar es Salaam in English to East Central and Southern Africa 1300 GMT 22 May 83

[Text] Nairobi: The president of the African National Congress of South Africa, Ndugu Oliver Tambo, has said that the movement was now putting the emphasis on attacking military targets in its campaign against the South African racist regime. Speaking in Nairobi, a day after 17 people were killed in a bomb explosion outside a South African Air Force headquarters in Pretoria, Ndugu Tambo said more such actions should be expected. The leader of the South African Council of Churches, Bishop Desmond Tutu, has said the bombing shows that the crisis facing the country has become even more desperate.

Ministers Issue Warnings Following Blast

General Malan Urges Action

MB202111 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2048 GMT 20 May 83

[Excerpts] Cape Town, May 20, SAPA — The government will not hesitate to launch more Maseru-style pre-emptive attacks on African National Congress bases to prevent further atrocities like today's Pretoria bomb explosion, the minister of defence, General Magnus Malan, made clear in Cape Town tonight.

Instead of "sitting around and waiting" for atrocities "we've got to do something about it," he told newsmen less than two hours after the explosion. He condemned what he described as a "reprehensive action against innocent people" and said that "we have been spared this type of terrorist action quite a while." He noted, however, that "we must consider this a war which started 17 years ago," adding, "it is a tragedy that our people are not conditioned to this sort of thing... We are busy fighting a war with a peacetime economy — the first time in the world this has happened. We are doing this and getting away with it."

Certain people had attacked him for authorising the raid on ANC houses in Maseru last year, but that raid had helped to avert further tragedies like the bomb explosion at the Bloemfontein Administration Board offices which had killed one black man and wounded 86 others in February this year. "If we don't start taking that kind of action now, we're sitting around and waiting for (an atrocity) to happen," he said. "So we've got to do something about it." General Malan praised the "solidarity" shown by all parliamentary parties in the immediate aftermath of the explosion. He said it was "a tragedy that our people are not

conditioned to this sort of thing," and warned that South Africans must get out of this conditioning that we're not involved in a war except, perhaps, if a son of ours is going to the border... I would say 95 percent of the population is unaware there is a war in progress."

At present, General Malan said, South Africa was involved in a revolutionary low-level war which can be converted into a conventional war in an instant.

The Pretoria bomb explosion came just six says before one of the events of the ANC "revolutionary calendar" — May 25, African Liberation Day. The calendar terms the period May 25 to May 31 a "week of solidarity with the struggle of the peoples of Southern Africa."

Le Grange on Countermeasures

MB220714 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 22 May 83

[Text] The South African minister of police, Mr Louis le Grange, has revealed that the police are making positive progress with the investigation of Friday evening's car bomb blast in which a total of 17 people, 9 of them white and 8 of them black, were killed and nearly 190 wounded. Mr le Grange said in a radio interview that several important clues had been uncovered by his men and these leads were being followed up. He said he was confident that the South African police would identify and eventually apprehend those responsible for the explosion.

The minister said that no government in any of South Africa's neighboring states that gave refuge to members of the banned ANC need expect his government to sit back and accept the situation. Acts of terror like the Pretoria blast would not be tolerated, and South Africa would plan her reaction at her own discretion and in her own interests.

He said that in a statement the ANC had neglected to point out that the bomb had been planted in a crowded street and that many civilians, both white and black, had been in the area. Mr le Grange said earlier that the ANC's threat this year that this would be a year of violence indicated that the organization was responsible for the blast.

R.F. Botha Warns of Reprisals

MB231046 Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 23 May p 1

[By Ian Hobbs]

[Text] London — South African Foreign Minister Mr Pik Botha in a "menacing" BBC Radio interview yesterday warned that military or economic reprisals were among measures that could be used against Mozambique, Lesotho and Botswana following the Pretoria bomb outrage.

blank\3 Mr Botha is the third Cabinet minister to warn neighbouring states that South Africa may seek revenge following the Pretoria car bomb attack which killed 17 people. The minister of defence, General Magnus Malan, has warned that South Africa will not hesitate to launch further preemptive strikes like the one on Maseru last year. And the minister of law and order, Mr Louis le Grange, in agreeing with Gen Malan, warned that "South Africa will plan her reaction at her own discretion."

Mr Botha told the BBC that in discussions this month with Mozambique, Lesotho and Botswana government representatives he "furnished them with details and facts" on the presence of terrorists. He added: "I indicated to them without threatening them that 'Look, gentlemen, either we are all going to eliminate this threat to all of us or we are going to drift towards a situation of general conflict.' And I appealed to them to eradicate and eliminate the bases of terrorists in their countries and the operations that we know of. I submitted exact details."

Asked about their reactions, Mr Botha said: "If I take their reaction as they put it to me, then I must say at the time I thought that they clearly saw the necessity for all governments of our southern Africa region to work together on this one very important matter. But of course this latest explosion puts matters in a different light."

Asked whether any of the three neighbouring states was implicated in training the guerrillas who planted the Pretoria bomb, Mr Botha said:

"I can't say that the governments of these three countries — any one of the governments as such — was directly, intentionally behind it. I do not have that evidence. But as I explained to them at the time when we met and had these discussions, I said to them that we could hardly imagine that they could be unaware of the activities of these terrorists within their territory."

He would not say which of the three neighbours presented the most difficulties from South Africa's point of view. "I would not like to make choices of that nature," said Mr Botha, but he emphasised that he had no doubt that terrorist attacks were directed from outside South Africa's borders. "When I say this to you I say it on the basis of expert knowledge," he said.

Asked whether retaliatory raids were certain if his warning was not heeded, Mr Botha said: "The South African Government will respond. I am not prepared to say to you exactly when and in which manner."

In a BBC interview yesterday Bishop Desmond Tutu urged South Africa's rulers to go to the negotiating table before the country was plunged into the sort of carnage that torments Northern Ireland. The head of the SA Council of Churches told BBC Radio: "I am desperately apprehensive about the future." Commenting on the Pretoria bomb outrage, he said: "There will be those (blacks) who are appalled at the loss of life and the extent of damage. But I would say that there were many more (blacks) who are saying that this is a sign of things to come."

RSA Forces Attack ANC Bases in Maputo

MB230620 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0610 GMT 23 May 83

[Text] Pretoria, May 23, SAPA — The South African Air Force has carried out a retaliatory attack on ANC bases in Maputo today, the minister of defence, General Magnus Malan announced in Pretoria today. A number of targets were attacked and a Mozambique Armed Forces missile site which provided protection to the area in which the targets were housed were neutralised. The minister said this interaction between the ANC and FAM (Mocambique Defence Force) and the direct protection which was given to terrorists had been pointed out repeatedly.

The other targets were: the headquarters of the "Transvaal urban machinery" of the ANC responsible for actions in the Transvaal urban areas; the headquarters of the Transvaal rural machinery; the ANC command post from where orders were issued for sabotage; the centre where the ANC members received training in the handling of limpet mines, weaponry and explosives, and ANC logistical headquarters as well as a supply point.

General Malan said: "Although the retaliatory attack could never compensate for the cowardly car-bomb attack in a busy central area of Pretoria, it will at least demonstrate to the world and South Africans' enemies that South Africa is ready to act where and when necessary.

"South Africa will not allow any part of its population — white, brown or black — to be destabilised by terrorism."

The bomb attack in Pretoria was clear proof of the influence of international terrorism and especially that of the Palestine Liberation Organisation on the ANC. The British community had the same experience recently with the Irish Republican Army. The ANC targets which were attacked, General Malan said, had been identified long ago by the security forces, he said.

"In the light of several interstate meetings to remove the conflict South Africa did, however, exercise self-control but neighbouring states such as Angola and Mozambique abused the situation by allowing deeds of terror to be perpetrated from their territories and also providing support."

General Malan pointed out that host-countries had repeatedly been warned not to provide logistical support, planning aid, bases and headquarters facilities to terrorist organisations. These countries were aware of the fact that South Africa would retaliate and warnings of this nature had been conveyed on all levels — by the prime minister, through diplomatic channels, and by means of security force liaison. "In addition, several members of the South African Government had offered to conclude nonaggression pacts with South Africa's neighbouring states," Gen Malan said.

"When the reprehensible attack occurred in Pretoria it was unamimously denounced by all political leaders in the South African Parliament. "South Africa's enemies will have to realise that, with such unity, they will find themselves running into a wall."

All Planes Return Safely

MB230804 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0752 GMT 23 May 83

[Text] Pretoria, May 23, SAPA — All aircraft which had taken part in an attack on ANC bases in Maputo today had returned safely to base, a spokesman for Defence Headquarters said in Pretoria today.

This was the second attack by security forces on Mozambique.

On Jan. 30, 1981 forces went to Maputo overland and several leaders of the ANC were killed near Matola, on the outskirts of the city. At the time, three ANC bases were reported to have been destroyed.

Last December, South African security forces launched an attack on Maseru in Lesotho where ANC members were killed in their houses. Security Forces Headquarters announced at the time that 30 members of the organisation had been killed.

Today's retaliatory attack followed swiftly after the minister of law and order, Mr Louis le Grange, and the minister of defence, General Magnus Malan, had said the Pretoria bomb-blast in which 17 people were killed and 217 injured would not go unpunished.

Ironically, the blast was in front of South African Air Force Headquarters - the arm of the Defence Force which took retaliatory action today.

General Malan said on Friday South Africa would not hesitate to take action against ANC bases.

At the weekend, Mr le Grange said in a television interview South Africa could not be expected to "stand with its hands behind its back" and watch violence perpetrated against innocent people.

Several of the people killed on Friday afternoon were Defence Force personnel.

By late this morning, there had been no word about casualty figures after the Maputo raid.

Reaction to Air Force Raid on Maputo

Party Leaders Express Support

MB230928 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans 0830 GMT 23 May 83

[Text] A spokesman for South African Defense Force Headquarters in Pretoria has said that all of the planes that took part in the attack on ANC bases in Maputo have returned safely to base.

Meanwhile, South African Airways has delayed its flights between Maputo and Johannesburg by 24 hours for security reasons. A spokesman said that flight SA146 will take off tomorrow on schedule.

Conservative Party leader Dr Andries Treurnicht says his party

supports the Defense Force and other security services in their actions aimed at making South Africa safe from aggression and at protecting citizens from terrorist deeds.

New Republic Party leader Mr Vause Raw says he welcomes the retaliatory action carried out against ANC bases in Maputo, which follows the bomb explosion in Pretoria on Friday in which 17 people were killed and 217 injured. He said that neighboring countries were repeatedly warned that giving sanctuary to terrorists and making facilities available for acts against South Africa would not be tolerated.

Opposition Leader on Raid

MB231142 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0900 GMT 23 May 83

[Text] The leader of the opposition, Dr van Zyl Slabbert, commenting on the raid, said these events painted a grim picture of what the South African situation would look like if violence and counterviolence became the pattern of waging conflict. The potential for South Africa to become an international flashpoint was very real, and all those who worked for peace and reconciliation should redouble their efforts.

ANC Issues Condemnatory Statement

AB231218 Paris AFP in English 1202 GMT 23 May 83

[Text] Harare, May 23 (AFP) — The African National Congress (ANC) of South Africa today condemned the South African Air Force's early morning attack on ANC targets in a suburb of Maputo, the Mozambican capital as a "wanton act of aggression."

In a statement issued at its offices in Lusaka, Zambia, and received by telex in neighboring Zimbabwe, the ANC denied the assertion by South African Defense Minister Magnus Malan that Pretoria's warplanes had hit military bases of the anti-apartheid movement, which is banned in South Africa.

The ANC statement said that "up to 10 jet planes of the Air Force of the apartheid regime bombed and strafed ANC residences in the Maputo suburb of Matola." It added, "We wish to reiterate that the ANC has no military bases in Matola or anywhere else in Mozambique. We unreservedly condemn this wanton act of aggression against the People's Republic of Mozambique and Pretoria's continued campaign of terror against South African refugees."

The statement said information was not available yet about casualties. However, an ANC spokesman contacted by a reporter in Lusaka said earlier that he had been in touch with his colleagues in Maputo, who had said some ANC members were killed in the raid. It was not known how many.

ZIMBABWE

Hungarian Media Report Visit by Mugabe

For Hungarian media coverage of the visit to Hungary of Robert Mugabe, prime minister of Zimbabwe, which began on 18 May, see the Hungary section of the 20 May Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.